

## Environmental *VOICES*

Office of Prevention, Pesticides,  
and Toxic Substances and  
Tribal Environmental  
News Exchange

[www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal)

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**Due to unexpected demand,  
"A Design the Kid's Page Contest,"  
sponsored by EPA and NTEC,  
is now extended to October 31, 2003.  
Please see page 21.**

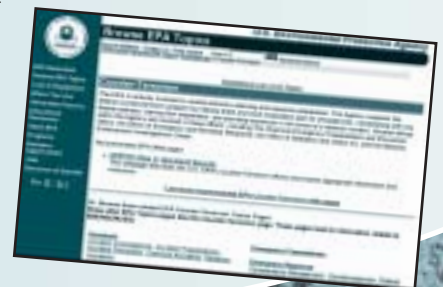
Featuring OPPTS Tribal News  
"A Design the Kid's Page Contest"  
now extended to October 31, 2003...

## EPA Announces Homeland Security Strategic Plan

On October 2, 2002, EPA Administrator Christie Whitman announced EPA's Strategic Plan for Homeland Security. Over the past several years, various Presidential directives and other orders have assigned EPA responsibility for some very important aspects of homeland security. Recently, President Bush's National Strategy for Homeland Security named EPA as the lead federal agency for protecting the critical drinking and wastewater infrastructure, promoting security in the chemical industry and hazardous materials sector, and responding and recovering from certain terrorist acts. EPA's new Strategic Plan for Homeland Security is intended to support the President's National Strategy and the efforts to be undertaken by the new Department of Homeland Security. Tom Ridge, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, commended EPA for its Strategic Plan, noting that it can serve as a model for other departments and agencies.

The Strategic Plan for Homeland Security will serve as a blueprint in the years ahead for meeting EPA'S homeland security responsibilities. The activities and initiatives in the plan represent an enhancement of EPA's capabilities to detect, prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from terrorist incidents. EPA's Strategic Plan reflects

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## From the Editor...

In these uncertain times, the *OPPTS Tribal News* Spring 2003 issue would like to provide an introduction to the topic of Homeland Security. Everyday our world continues to change as we are facing more serious and complex issues. Having ready access to vital information that is intended to protect our homeland, environment, and communities from threats posed by domestic and international terrorism is important to all us. Every effort to communicate pertinent information with tribes and Alaska Native Villages will be extremely important if we are to fully achieve the Agency's goals of protecting the environment and safeguarding the public health in Indian country. This issue also provides updates to other important events and initiatives that are of interest to our readers, including a message regarding the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC)

and EPA Kid's Page Design Contest. See page 24 for more detailed information on the contest and how children and young adults in kindergarten through 12th grade can participate.

This Spring, the staff of *OPPTS Tribal News* are looking forward to publishing a separate five-year commemorative issue that will look back and reflect on some of the past articles, features, and kid's pages published over the last five years.

As always, we want to thank all of our EPA, tribal, and other contributors for their support in this issue. Please remember to visit the OPPT tribal web site at [www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal) and the new Office of Pesticides Programs tribal web site at [www.epa.gov/pesticides/tribes](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/tribes) to get the latest news and updates on pollution prevention and toxic programs and pesticides programs.

—Mary Lauterbach,  
OPPT Tribal Coordinator

*Will you ever begin to understand the meaning of the very soil beneath your feet? From a grain of sand to a great mountain, all is sacred.*

*Yesterday and tomorrow exist eternally upon this continent.*

*We natives are guardians of this sacred place.*

—Peter Blue Cloud, Mohawk

## OPPTS Tribal News Mission Statement

*OPPTS Tribal News* seeks to provide an opportunity to promote a two-way dialogue with EPA and American Indian Tribes, including Alaskan Native Villagers, regarding a vast array of environmental issues and concerns that affect Indian Country. The mission and hope of the publication is to maintain an open, constructive exchange of information between the federal government, tribal governments, and tribal organizations. Together, we can build mutual understandings and forge effective partnerships to achieve our common goals of protecting the water, air, land, and communities, now and in order that the circle will continue on for generations to come.

—*OPPTS Tribal News* Staff

The Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances is pleased to include the comments and opinions of contributors. Byline articles and interviews represent the opinions and views of contributors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Also, these byline articles and interviews are not subject to the Information Quality Guidelines.

OPPTS Tribal News requests interesting, relevant stories about pesticide and pollution prevention programs and projects in Indian country from our readers. If you want to share your experience with our readers, please write or send an e-mail to Karen Rudek (pesticides), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue (MC7506C), Washington, DC 20460, [rudek.karen@epa.gov](mailto:rudek.karen@epa.gov), or Mary Lauterbach (pollution prevention), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue (MC7408M), Washington, DC 20460, [lauterbach.mary@epa.gov](mailto:lauterbach.mary@epa.gov).

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*OPPTS Tribal News* can be viewed on the Internet at [www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tribal)

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Karen Rudek, OPP Editor  
Shanita Brackett, Writer  
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## EPA Announces Homeland Security Strategic Plan

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the deliberations of the Agency's senior leadership since November 2001 with contributions from every program and regional office in the Agency. It includes an expansion of activities that EPA is already pursuing under existing programs and new initiatives in response to potential threats and vulnerabilities. As the federal government continues to better address the issue of protecting the nation, EPA's Strategic Plan will be revised and improved.

The Agency's Strategic Plan for Homeland Security is organized into four distinct, mission-critical areas that collectively address promoting the safety of the public water systems and the chemical industrial facilities and improving our ability to respond to potential chemical, biological and certain radiological incidents:

(1) Critical Infrastructure Protection - a commitment to assess and reduce vulnerabilities in the water utilities, the chemical and oil industries, and parties responsible for indoor air; and a commitment to developing technologies to improve the nation's critical infrastructure and response capabilities to detect and monitor environmental threats;

(2) Preparedness, Response, and Recovery - focus on strengthening and broadening EPA's response capabilities;

(3) Communication and Information - promoting confident decision-making by effectively sharing information with government and private sectors and by improving communications;

(4) Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure - ensuring the security of EPA's own personnel and infrastructure and to provide operational continuity in an emergency.

Under each critical area, the strategic plan lays out specific goals,

programs to accomplish each goal and, for many goals, detailed activity lists and time frames for their completion. For almost every program, a key initial activity will be coordinated with participation from the Department of Homeland Security, other federal agencies, and EPA's partners at the state, local, and tribal government levels.

The EPA Strategic Plan for Homeland Security has detailed goals and programs for protecting the water utilities in all communities, regardless of size. Many of these include the involvement of tribal governments. Under the first goal of the "Critical Infrastructure Protection" area, EPA commits to work with tribes and other partners to enhance water utility security by providing tools, training, and technical assistance in conducting vulnerability assessments, implementing security improvements, and effectively responding to terrorist events. EPA also will work with tribes and states to build security concerns into ongoing review systems (e.g., sanitary survey, operator certification, etc.). One benchmark includes providing financial support to tribes and states for managing security activities into their routine program activities. Tribal responders will find that EPA will foster coordination among all levels of emergency responders through training and emergency response exercises.

EPA also commits to work with tribes and other partners to enhance the security of the chemical and oil industry infrastructure. EPA will work with tribal emergency planning authorities and other emergency planning organizations to assist them in understanding site security hazards and prioritizing risks with their chemical facilities. EPA will

expand its risk information on certain chemicals and share this information with the other government agencies. In support of the new Department of Homeland Security, EPA will work with tribes and other agencies to detect potential threats in the ambient air in near real time by making available EPA's ambient air monitoring data, and if funding is available, by developing a centralized database that contains real time ambient air data.

Under the second critical mission area, "Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Goals," tribal governments will receive EPA support in developing their preparedness and ability to respond to and recover from a terrorist attack. EPA recognizes that the first response to such incidents usually takes place at the local level. EPA will foster coordination among all levels of responders, including by supporting training exercises. Tribes and others will also benefit from the third mission area, "Communication and Information," through the Agency's promotion of the timely and effective exchange of relevant information to promote informed decision-making.

The Agency's Strategic Plan for Homeland Security in Adobe Acrobat format can be found at [www.epa.gov/epahome/downloads/epa\\_homeland\\_security\\_strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/epahome/downloads/epa_homeland_security_strategic_plan.pdf). For information on other homeland security and counter terrorists activities of the Agency, log on to [www.epa.gov/ebtpages/emercounterterrorism.html](http://www.epa.gov/ebtpages/emercounterterrorism.html)

### OPPT Welcomes New Office Director

Last fall, OPPT bade farewell to its Office Director, Dr. Williams H. Sanders, III. Since 1995, Dr. Sanders led OPPT in many areas, and some of the notable accomplishments under his leadership were programs including the High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals Challenge Program, the Lead Program, the Persistent, Bioaccumulative Toxics Pollutants initiative, and P2 programs, such as Design for the Environment and the Green Chemistry Program. Dr. Sanders also led two international efforts, the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety.

Dr. Sanders was key in establishing OPPT's Tribal Program in 1997, and his deep commitment to improving OPPT's partnership through communications with Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villagers was clearly demonstrated by his strong support for the publication of the *OPPT Tribal News*, first published in September 1998. Dr. Sanders also had overseen the development of a comprehensive

resources book entitled, *Programs, Resources, and Grant Opportunities for Indian Tribes*, which was distributed to all federally recognized tribal governments in 1999.

Dr. Sanders is now the Deputy Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances and is a leader of the International Global Mercury Assessment project. Dr. Sanders leads the efforts for the Environmental Justice programs and activities for OPPTS. We wish him much luck in his new position and want to thank him for encouraging the successful development of a tribal program in OPPT.

As a result of Dr. Sanders' departure, OPPT welcomed a new Office Director, Charles Auer. Mr. Auer is not new to OPPT, having worked in OPPT in varying capacities for most of his career. He has extensive expertise in implementing numerous programs under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Over the past several years, he has served as Division Director in the Chemical Control Division, with responsibility for new and existing

chemicals. He has been directly involved with many innovative projects and program initiatives, such as the HPV program and has worked extensively in the international arena. While Mr. Auer is committed to all the programs under the purview of OPPT, he stated, during the Fall 2002 FOSTTA meeting where he met with tribal representatives of the Tribal Affairs Project, that he plans to be fully engaged in tribal issues and concerns. He also expressed great interest in learning as much as possible about tribes and ways to afford effective environmental protection while safeguarding the health and the environment of those in Indian country. He plans to support the Agency's Indian Policy and will seek out ways for innovation and flexibility to assure the most effective ways to work with tribes on a government-to-government basis. We look forward to working with him in building an even more effective Tribal Program at OPPT in the future.



### OPP Changes Leadership

In late February 2003, Marcia Mulkey, Director of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs for five years, accepted an opportunity to move her career in new directions. During her tenure with OPP, Marcia proved to be a strong advocate for Indian country and an important influence on a number of efforts that directly and positively affected tribes. Her commitment to considering and addressing tribal issues and concerns was much appreciated, and will be greatly missed.

We are happy to announce that James J. Jones has been selected as the new director of OPP. In his new position, Jim is responsible for the overall management of pesticide programs under the authority of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. This major pesticide law was amended by the landmark statute, the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996, which mandated sweeping changes to EPA pesticide programs to assure a safe food supply. With approximately 820 federal employees and a budget of about \$150 million, Jim has direct management and operational responsibilities over EPA's largest Headquarters' program office.

Immediately prior to his new appointment, Mr. Jones served as OPP's Deputy Director for Pesticide Programs. As part of OPP's senior management, he worked closely with Marcia Mulkey and others to shape office policy and programs, and provided important, high-level support for tribal initiatives. As program director with management responsibilities for OPP's FIFRA Section 18 program, Jim played a role in developing a means to meet the emergency exemption needs of farmers in Indian country.

In late 2002 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the Navajo Nation, the United States Department of Agriculture, and EPA. The MOU provides a process by which farmers in the Navajo Nation may apply for exemptions from national pesticide use requirements when registered pesticides are either not available or do not provide effective control of pest infestations. This MOU now serves as a model for other tribes.

From 1997 to 2001, Jim served as Director of the Registration Division of the Office of Pesticide Programs, where he administered the national pesticide registration program. In this capacity he was

responsible for managing a large number of annual regulatory activities, including establishing or revoking pesticide tolerances and exemptions, approving or denying emergency exemptions (Section 18's), and making decisions on experimental use permits, new active ingredients, new uses, and registrations for special local needs. Previous to that, Jim served as Associate Director of the Field and External Affairs Division, which houses the OPP tribal program. Earlier he was Chief of the Registration Support Branch within OPP's Registration Division.

Jim Jones has been with the Environmental Protection Agency for 16 years. He has an MA degree in economics from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a BA degree in Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park. We look forward to working with him and with the OPP management team, as well as with the Tribal Pesticide Program Council, EPA regions and others as the OPP Tribal Program continues its efforts to address the environmental needs of Indian country.

## Tribal Traditional Lifeways/Subsistence Project Workshop

A Tribal Traditional Lifeways/Subsistence Technical Workshop was held April 12-16, 2003, in Anchorage, Alaska. The workshop convened 30 to 40 tribal experts, including leaders, elders, scientists, and environmental directors, with experience in subsistence

management projects to identify national subsistence issues and concerns. Participants also identified existing federal and tribal resources and develop approaches to resolve some of the national subsistence issues. A small number of EPA also attended in an advisory

capacity. This project was supported by an EPA grant with the Alaska Native Science Commission (ANSC). For further information, contact Patricia Cochran or Roland Shanks, ANSC, at 907-258-2672.



## National Source Water Protection Conference, June 2003

EPA is pleased to announce the 2003 National Source Water Protection Conference, "Protecting the Sources of the Nation's Drinking Water: Opportunities for Action." The conference will be held June 2-4, 2003, at the Hotel

Washington in Washington, D.C. The conference will build upon the states' completion of more than 165,000 source water assessments by providing information and opportunities for action planning. Participants will be able to learn

from and network with individuals from a variety of federal, state, local, and tribal programs, as well as non-governmental organizations, including environmental, public health, business, and citizens' organizations; technical assistance providers; and others who are working to

promote source water protection. Breakout sessions will enable participants to build networks and partnerships to promote protection, incorporate protection goals into other responsibilities, find funding for protection, identify opportunities, and find solutions to overcome challenges.

To register for this conference and gather more information, visit [www.epa.gov/safewater/protect/swpconf.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/protect/swpconf.html) or contact Sylvia Malm, EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, 202-564-3889, [swpconf@epa.gov](mailto:swpconf@epa.gov). To reserve a room at the Hotel Washington for \$150 per night, call 800-424-9540 (reference the Source Water Protection/EPA meeting).



### EPA's Community Culture and the Environment Guide Now Available

EPA's *Community Culture and the Environment: A Guide to Understanding a Sense of Place* was published by the EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds in January 2003 and is now available for ordering. The guide explores the concepts of community and culture and provides tools for identifying, assessing, and working cooperatively within the social dynamics and local values connected to environmental protection. These tools will help define community, identify stakeholders, enhance education and

outreach, build partnerships and consensus, identify resources, plan and set goals, and integrate local realities with ecological issues. The guide is designed for people involved in community-based initiatives, including those affiliated with community and watershed-based organizations; universities; and federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. To learn more about how this valuable resource can help you achieve your environmental protection goals, visit [www.epa.gov/eco-community/tools/community.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/eco-community/tools/community.pdf).

To request a FREE copy of the guide, visit the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) web site at [www.epa.gov/ncepihom/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom/index.htm) or call 1-800-490-9198. The publication number is EPA 842-B-01-003.



### "Tainted Legacy," a Film from the Delaware Nation

As part of an effort to bring important health information to tribal community members, the Delaware Nation of Western Oklahoma has produced a new videotape titled *Tainted Legacy*. The film chronicles a mysterious illness that strikes tribal members shortly after cultural artifacts are returned to them by a Texas museum. It follows tribal healthcare investigators and the tribal environmental department as they piece together puzzling events, identify the cause of the illness, and develop and implement safeguards for community members.

In the past, when tribal cultural items were acquired for museum collections, they were often treated with dangerous agents such as arsenic, mercury, strychnine, and DDT to discourage and eliminate damage-causing pests. Believing that the articles would be safely locked away in museum cabinets,

museum collectors thought these residues could pose no threat to human health.

Years later, however, under the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the federal government directed museums to return human remains, funerary objects, sacred artifacts, and objects of cultural patrimony to their tribes of origin. In 1996, a further requirement was put in place for notification of known pesticide—or other chemical—contamination associated with the objects. Unfortunately, museum records of treatment over the past century or more are often incomplete or nonexistent, and the number of possible chemical contaminants is large, making identification of potentially dangerous residues a daunting endeavor. As a result, artifacts are sometimes returned to tribes—in good faith—without adequate descriptions of

potential exposure hazards. In *Tainted Legacy*, this contamination issue, as well as a general safety message on the importance of careful handling procedures for repatriated items, are couched in an engaging "whodunnit" format.

Copies of the videotape and an accompanying brochure are available from the Delaware Nation free of charge while supplies last. For further information, please contact Linda Marcum, Pesticide Project Coordinator, Delaware Nation Environmental Program, P.O. Box 825, Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005, 405-247-2448, 405-247-9393 (fax). Funding for this project was provided by the EPA Region 6 Pesticide Program.

# Tribal LifeLine™ Project Update: Exposure Analysis Software Focused on Traditional Lifeways in Tribal Communities

OPP has initiated a pilot project to develop an exposure assessment tool that focuses on the unique dietary and living scenarios of tribal community members in identified biogeographical areas (BGAs). The project will modify software currently being used (LifeLine™) to assess possible pesticide and toxic chemical risks to the general U.S. population. Information specific to the chosen tribal communities will replace software data that currently describe mainstream or commercial U.S. communities. The resulting software will allow assessment of risk from chemicals in food, air, water, or residential sources for

specific native American and Alaska native sub-populations whose traditional cultural lifeways may produce exposures that are significantly different in type and degree from those of mainstream America. The project also will provide training and educational materials for tribes and others who are interested in understanding and using the revised LifeLine™ software. The new versions of LifeLine™ software, documentation, and educational materials will be made available, without fee, to all interested persons. Funding for the project is from EPA's Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxic Pollutant Initiative and OPPTS.

funding for data development. Having exposure and risk assessment capabilities is becoming increasingly more important for those in the political, regulatory and technical arenas who want to show effective representations of their data.

### **What Information is in the LifeLine™ Model?**

Models like LifeLine™ are stocked and operate with a blend of data, assumptions, defaults, and professional judgments about people's diets, physiology, activity patterns, living situations, water sources, and general environments. These models do not contain information about specific chemicals in the diet or environment. Such information is supplied by the user in response to questions or other coaching assistance from the model. Information contained in the model, combined with data (or assumptions) about the occurrence of chemicals in the environment, yield a profile of who could be exposed to how much chemical, when, and via what avenues, and an assessment of the possible health risks that such exposure may present.

The unusually close relationship of tribal members with their total environment, which may include traditional and non-mainstream diets, life practices, housing configurations, and activity patterns, may create a

#### **Data in Traditional Models**

- Commercial food sources
- Dietary descriptions for mainstream U.S. populations
- Mainstream U.S. population demographics
- Health statistics for general U.S. persons
- Other data representing the general U.S. population

#### **Replacement Data Representing Traditional Tribal Lifeways**

- Demographics, health statistics and living scenarios relevant to tribal communities and native Americans
- Dietary profiles for the tribal community
- Recipes and food source information relevant to traditional practices and diets

### **Use of the Model by Tribes, US EPA, Researchers, Health Professionals**

Exposure and risk assessment models have become increasingly important tools for public health professionals and regulatory scientists. The models help to describe and quantify chemical exposures encountered by various populations in their diets and day-to-day living environments. Exposure profiles play an important role in health-risk determinations and in regulatory and policy decisions on toxic chemical use and cleanup. They influence the setting of pesticide management requirements, help identify enforcement priorities, and highlight the importance of

<sup>1</sup>The word "tribe" and its derivatives are intended to encompass federally recognized native American tribes and pueblo dwellers in the contiguous 48 states, as well as federally recognized Alaska native villages.



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unique, and, to date, largely unknown, set of chemical and pesticide exposure scenarios. OPP has recognized a need to bring these American tribal life scenarios into its regulatory considerations, and understands that, to meet this need, data describing traditional tribal diets and lifeways must be included in available exposure and risk modeling software. The LifeLine Group, who has been contracted by OPP to redesign the software, is well aware of potential copyright and proprietary data issues. They are working closely with tribal governments in two discrete BGAs with guidance from local advisory committees and experts suggested by the tribes themselves, as well as with interested national tribal organizations, to ensure that collected information will be used correctly and with appropriate sensitivity.

### **Two Tribal Communities Represented in the Pilot Project**

Because diets and lifeways differ dramatically among native American tribes, no single data set will ever adequately characterize all tribes. Many scenarios would be required to create a complete tribal assessment software model. The current project includes two scenarios (the BGAs, mentioned earlier), which will allow both EPA and the tribes to evaluate the usefulness of results and the feasibility of expansion of the project to other parts of

Indian country. The tribes of the Nivalena Tribal Consortium in Alaska are being modeled to characterize subarctic, lake, and river border traditional lifeways. The Blackfeet Tribe of Montana represents a very different, northern plains traditional environment. The LifeLine Group, with the assistance of the tribes, is in the process of collecting existing information about these tribal people and their lifeways.

### **Project Elements**

Upon completion of data collection and software modification, the software will be provided to the modeled tribes and all other interested parties, without charge. Training sessions will be set up at sites identified by the tribes and perhaps at other locations for those wishing to learn more about the exposure assessment sciences and use of the new tool. As the utility of the project becomes known, additional tribal scenarios may be considered for inclusion in the model.

#### **Project Elements**

- Identify Data Needs
- Choose Tribal Sites
- Collect Data/Incorporate into LifeLine™
- Hold Training Sessions
- Distribute Software and Educational Materials

### **About The LifeLine Group**

The LifeLine Group was organized as a not-for-profit organization for the purpose of creating technically excellent, open, and available tools for assessing risks from the exposure to chemicals. All versions of LifeLine™ software and accompanying technical and educational materials are made available to all interested parties, without charge, as part of a commitment by EPA to make transparent risk assessment tools widely available. Initial versions of the LifeLine™ software were created with the support of EPA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and several private parties.

More information about LifeLine™ is available at [www.TheLifeLineGroup.org](http://www.TheLifeLineGroup.org), or by contacting Dr. Christine F. Chaisson, Director, The LifeLine Group, 4610 Quarter Charge Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, 877-978-6496, [chaissoninc@erols.com](mailto:chaissoninc@erols.com). The EPA contact for this project is Karen Rudek, OPP, 703-305-6005, [rudek.karen@epa.gov](mailto:rudek.karen@epa.gov).

# The TSCA Inventory Update Rule Amendments

The TSCA Inventory Update Rule Amendments (IURA) address serious deficiencies in the availability of exposure-related information on a set of relatively higher production volume chemicals from among the chemicals listed on the TSCA Inventory, including both organic and inorganic chemicals. Basic exposure information is critical if EPA and other organizations are to identify potential risk reduction opportunities and target resources more efficiently.

### What is the IURA?

The TSCA Inventory Update Rule (IUR) requires the submission of basic data on approximately 9,000 organic substances every four years, taken from a list of more than 76,000 chemicals on the TSCA Inventory of Chemical Substances. The latest submission of data occurred in 2002 for substances produced in 2001. Through the IURA, EPA added processing and use elements to the collection, adjusted the exemptions to the rule and made certain administrative and confidential business information (CBI) changes. These changes tailor the chemical substance reporting requirements so that they more closely match EPA's and others' information needs, provide a vehicle for EPA to obtain updated information related to the potential human and environmental exposures of chemical substances listed on the TSCA Inventory, and improve the utility of the information reported under the IUR.

### Who is Affected by the IURA?

Current IUR submitters and inorganic chemical manufacturers and importers with site-specific annual production volumes of 25,000 pounds or more for individual chemicals are affected by the IURA. Current submitters are manufacturers of TSCA chemicals who produce annual amounts of 10,000 pounds or greater (the 10,000 pounds reporting threshold was recently raised to 25,000 pounds). In addition, EPA has altered some exemptions from the need to be reported. Certain natural gas streams no longer need to be reported. Other groups of chemicals, including most petroleum streams and certain chemicals where the IURA processing and use data are of "low current interest," are now partially exempt, and manufacturers are no longer required to report processing and use information (Part III of the reporting form, Form U) on those chemicals. Additionally, for the first reporting period only, inorganic substances are partially exempt. After the first reporting period, inorganic substances will be subject to full reporting, based on production volume, unless they are otherwise included in one of the other exemptions.

As with the current IUR, most businesses who meet the 40 CFR 704.3 definition for "small manufacturer or importer" will continue to be exempt from reporting requirements. A business meets the criterion when total annual

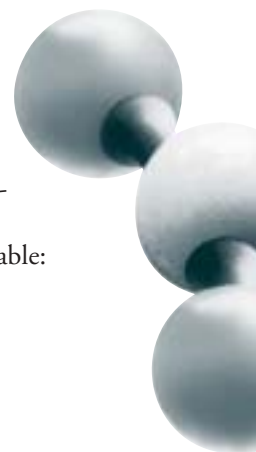
sales are less than \$40 million and the manufacturing or import volume is less than 100,000 pounds at all sites.

### When Will Reporting Occur?

The first IURA submission period will occur in 2006, when companies will report data on chemicals manufactured and imported in calendar year 2005. The final rule indicates that subsequent reporting years and submission periods will occur every four years; however, in a separate action following the final rule, EPA intends to change the reporting frequency after the first reporting period under IURA from every four years to every five years. Therefore, the second IURA submission period would occur in 2011.

### What Information Will Be Reported?

Manufacturers and importers currently report basic site and chemical identity information, specific chemical production volume, and chemical site limited status. Under the IURA, manufacturers and importers will report new information based on their levels of production. For chemicals with annual volumes of 25,000 pounds or more per site, manufacturers and importers will report the following new information to the extent that it is known or reasonably ascertainable:



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- Number of workers reasonably likely to be exposed to the chemical substance at the site of manufacture or import
- Physical form(s) of the chemical substance as it leaves the submitter's possession, along with the associated percent production volume
- Maximum concentration of the chemical substance as it leaves the submitter's possession.

In addition, for chemicals with annual volumes of 300,000 pounds or more per site, manufacturers and importers will report the following new information to the extent that it is readily obtainable:

- Type of industrial processing or use operation at downstream sites
- North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes that best describe the industrial activities conducted by the sites that use or process the substance

- Industrial functions of the chemical substances
- Approximate number of processing and use sites
- Estimated number of workers reasonably likely to be exposed to each chemical substance at all sites at which the chemical is used or processed
- Commercial and consumer uses of reportable chemical substances, including an indication of whether the products are intended for use by children
- Maximum concentration of the reportable chemical substance in each commercial and consumer product category
- Estimated percentages of the submitter's production volume in each industrial function category and commercial and consumer product category.

### **What Other Changes Were Included?**

As with current IUR reporting, submitters can continue to claim information as confidential, provided that the information qualifies as CBI. In addition to providing upfront substantiation for chemical identity CBI claims, submitters are now required to provide upfront substantiation for site identity CBI claims. In addition, EPA is asking submitters to determine if their production volume within specified ranges is CBI.

In addition to the new information requirements and the changes in reporting thresholds and exemptions, EPA now requires calendar year reporting (versus the current

company fiscal year reporting). Additionally, submitters are required to retain records for five years (versus the current four years). After the first submission period under IURA, EPA plans to change the reporting frequency from every four years to every five years, with a subsequent change to the record-keeping requirements to retain records for six years.

### **How can I find out more information?**

You can find out more information by calling the TSCA Hotline at 202-554-1404 or by viewing EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/opptintr/iur/](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/iur/).

### EPA Region 9 Seeks Tribal Partners to Reduce Residential Burning

EPA Region 9's Office of Pollution Prevention and Solid Waste recently requested grant applications from tribes or tribal organizations in Arizona, California, or Nevada that demonstrate effective programs to reduce residential trash burning. Open burning of household waste—whether in trash piles, burn barrels, or open dumps—can be a major human health and environmental problem. Open burning is one of the nation's largest uncontrolled source of dioxins—a group of the most toxic chemicals

known to science. Dioxins travel long distances and build up in animals and fish that we eat. Dioxins can trigger a range of cancers and a number of non-cancer health effects. Smoke from open burning also has other toxic chemicals and particles that can trigger asthma and other respiratory problems. EPA Region 9 will provide up to \$30,000 for projects to reduce burning, such as public education and outreach, ordinance development and enforcement, and development of waste collection

or recycling programs. EPA Region 9 will work closely with recipients to measure the effectiveness of the projects, and effective strategies and case studies will be shared with tribes throughout Region 9 and state and local governments. Results also will be used as part of a national effort to evaluate and collect the best tools and resources to reduce burning. After reviewing grant applications, EPA Region 9 will be funding two to three projects in the next several months.

For more information, contact John Katz, EPA Region 9, 415-972-3283, [katz.john@epa.gov](mailto:katz.john@epa.gov).



### NAGPRA Seminar at the Sealaska Heritage Institute

Sealaska Heritage Institute sponsored a three-day Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) seminar at the Huna Heritage Foundation on December 5-7, 2002. The seminar, funded by a grant from the National Park Service, included funding for tribal representatives in outlying

areas to attend the workshop. The conference provided participants with an overview of NAGPRA; instructions on how to file a claim for objects to be returned to Southeast Alaskan tribes using the NAGPRA law; and an overview of museum inventory lists, basic principles of traditional Tlingit property law, and contamination

issues associated with artifacts, such as pesticides once used to preserve objects. The conference ended with a strategy session to discuss developing a regional-wide approach to repatriation. For more information, please contact Kathy Miller at [kathy.miller@sealaska.com](mailto:kathy.miller@sealaska.com).

### EPA's OPPT PBT Profiler

EPA's OPPT PBT Profiler is a screening-level tool that estimates persistence, bioaccumulation, and fish chronic toxicity on-line at no cost to the user. Available at [www.pbtprofiler.net](http://www.pbtprofiler.net), the PBT Profiler is a subset of methods included in the pollution prevention (P2) Framework, which is an EPA approach to risk screening that incorporates pollution prevention principles in the design and development of chemicals. The objective of the P2 Framework is to assist in decision-making at the early stages of chemical development and promote the selection and application of safer chemicals and processes.

The PBT Profiler was developed jointly by EPA, the American Chemistry Council, the Chlorine Chemistry Council, the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association, and with the support and contributions from the Environmental Defense.

EPA has taken methods for estimating environmental persistence (P), bioconcentration potential (B), and aquatic toxicity (T) and integrated these into the PBT Profiler. The PBT Profiler will predict P, B, and (fish chronic) T characteristics from chemical structures. When the user accesses the PBT Profiler on the Internet, the

program prompts the user to enter the CAS Registry Numbers (RNs) of the chemicals under consideration. The PBT Profiler is linked to a database containing the CAS RNs and the associated chemical structures for more than 100,000 discrete chemical substances. If the CAS RN is in the database, the PBT Profiler will translate the CAS RN into a chemical structure, predict the PBT characteristics, and provide a PBT profile in an easy-to-understand format. A drawing program, also available, allows the user to draw and enter the struc-

It is important to note that EPA does not rely solely on results of screening-level methods, such as the PBT Profiler, to regulate chemicals. Users should remember that this tool provides estimates of PBT characteristics, and is useful for establishing priorities for chemical evaluation when chemical-specific data are lacking. This, and any screening-level method, should be used with caution. If the PBT Profiler identifies an issue of potential concern, additional data and analyses should be gathered for an informed decision about the chemicals under review.

ture if the CAS RN is not in the database. The structure also can be entered as a Simplified Molecular Input Line Entry System (SMILES) Notation. In addition, the PBT Profiler compares the results of a profile with the PBT criteria established for (1) Premanufacture Notices (PMNs) submitted under section 5 of TSCA and (2) chemicals reported to the Toxics Release Inventory under section 313 of the Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act.

EPA conducted a beta test of the PBT Profiler with industry and other stakeholders to further evaluate the technical accuracy of the methodology and to solicit comments on the format, content, and interpretation of the model results. After the beta test was completed, EPA initiated a formal scientific peer review of the revised, updated PBT Profiler. The PBT Profiler was released to the public on September 25, 2002.

For more information on the PBT Profiler, contact Bill Waugh, PBT Profiler Program Manager, at 202-564-7657 or [waugh.bill@epa.gov](mailto:waugh.bill@epa.gov), or contact Maggie Wilson, PBT Profiler Technical Lead, at 202-564-8924 or [wilson.maggie@epa.gov](mailto:wilson.maggie@epa.gov).

## Tribal Science Council Update

*By Chris Gannon, Tribal Co-Chair*

The Tribal Science Council (TSC) held a meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on February 18-21, 2003. A focal point of this meeting was a workshop that enabled tribes to gain a better understanding of EPA's risk assessment paradigm. It also gave EPA an opportunity to learn more about the tribal health and well-being paradigm. At the conclusion of the workshop, the Council determined the next steps that need to be taken to extend the understanding of both paradigms beyond that of the representatives of the TSC.

In addition to the workshop, the TSC tackled two other objectives at the meeting in Albuquerque. The first objective was to discuss in greater detail the eight tribal science issues that were presented at the September 2002 TSC meeting. The issues, listed according to priority, follow:

- Tribal Traditional Lifeways, including tribally-relevant risk assessment
- Endocrine disruptor chemicals
- Dioxin reassessment and reference dose
- Cumulative impacts
- Toxic mold
- POPs source reduction (formerly pollution prevention)
- Pharmaceuticals in wastewater
- Tribal research (including global warming and climate change monitoring).

The second objective involved developing a plan for communicating with all tribes on these priority issues. More information regarding these priorities, as well as general information about the TSC, can be found at [www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm).



*Members of the Tribal Science Council in Albuquerque, NM.*

### NEJAC Subcommittee Meeting Held December 2002

A National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) Health and Research Subcommittee meeting was held at the Inner Harbor Marriott Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland on December 11, 2002. The one-day meeting included open question and answer sessions and panel discussions, as well as subcommittee working sessions. An overview and review of feedback from the EPA Region 6 Listening Session, that took place on November 14-16, 2002 in Austin, Texas, followed a welcoming and review of the day's agenda. The purpose of the regional listening session was to provide a basis for planning and action to respond to community needs, particularly at-risk (e.g. low-income, minority, and tribal) communities.

An overview and panel discussion of the Pollution Prevention (P2) Report was provided by OPPT. The policy question presented for analysis in the P2 report was "How can EPA promote innovation in the field of pollution prevention, waste minimization, and related areas to more effectively ensure a clean environment and quality of life for all people, including low-income, minority and tribal communities?" Members of the P2 Workgroup and their Designated Federal Official also provided subcommittee members and participants with an overview of the NEJAC's draft report, "Advancing Environmental Justice Through Pollution Prevention." Within chapter 2 of the report, NEJAC outlines a series of eleven proposed consensus recommendations and provides background and

action steps, including:

- Develop and promote implementation of a multi-stakeholder collaborative model to advance environmental justice through pollution prevention
- Increase community and tribal participation in pollution prevention partnerships by promoting capacity-building
- Identify and implement opportunities to advance environmental justice through pollution prevention in federal environmental statutes
- Promote local area multi-media, multi-hazard reduction planning and implementation
- Encourage "green buildings," "green businesses," and "green industries" through EPA's Brownfields and Smart Growth programs
- Promote product substitution and process substitution in areas which impact low-income, minority and tribal communities
- Promote efforts to incorporate pollution prevention in Supplemental Environmental Projects
- Promote just and sustainable transportation projects and initiatives
- Strengthen implementation of pollution prevention programs on tribal lands and Alaskan Native villages
- Promote efforts to institutionalize pollution prevention internationally, particularly in developing countries
- Provide incentives to promote collaboration among communities, business, and government on pollution prevention projects in

environmental justice communities.

After a question and answer session, EPA Region 2 provided participants with an overview of the impacts of "Post 911 Tragedy." EPA Region 2 provided participants with data in response to concerns, as determined by subcommittee members, of impacts that the post "911" tragedy has had on surrounding communities, particularly "at-risk" (e.g. low-income, minority, tribal) communities, and the action steps taken to address community needs.

In the afternoon, a subcommittee working session discussed three core topics: (1) subcommittee's strategic plan and assigning subcommittee project leads, (2) cumulative risk assessment and establishment of working groups, and (3) contaminated sediments science plan.

For more information, please contact Danny Gogal, EPA, at 202-564-2576 or [gogal.danny@epa.gov](mailto:gogal.danny@epa.gov).



# FOSTTA Tribal Affairs Project Develops Lead-Based Paint Issue Paper

By Fred E. Corey, Environmental Director, Aroostook Band of Micmacs

The FOSTTA Tribal Affairs Project (TAP) recently developed a lead-based paint issue paper to provide a concise synopsis of lead-based paint issues in Indian country. The issue paper will help foster an understanding of the problems encountered by tribes when trying to protect their members from the dangers of lead, and it may be utilized by tribes and federal agencies to begin to develop solutions to lead issues that are impacting Indian country. Although the issue paper is not a complete list of all lead-based paint issues in Indian country, it does identify common lead-based paint issues faced by many tribes.

In the issue paper, tribal lead-based paint issues have been categorized into three main areas, including program certification, blood-lead testing, and abatement funding. With regard to program certification issues, only three tribes in the U.S. have thus far received lead program authorization from EPA, and although several factors are contributing to the few number of tribes with EPA authorized lead-based paint programs, it appears that the primary limiting factor is associated with jurisdictional concerns. In evaluating tribal authority for lead-based paint activities, EPA reviews the entire reservation of a tribe, which may contain fee land (non-Indian owned land). Concerns that tribes may not be able to demonstrate adequate jurisdictional authority on fee lands within reservation

boundaries has, therefore, discouraged tribal lead program authorization.

Tribal blood-lead testing concerns are primarily associated with data confidentiality issues and the use of tribal blood-lead data to assess the significance of lead-based paint issues on tribal land. Data confidentiality issues have been identified as problematic at both the tribal level and federal level. Many tribes are unwilling to perform blood-lead testing of tribal children utilizing federal funds because this generally requires that the tribes provide the data to the federal government. Providing confidential tribal data to agencies outside the tribe raises concerns about potential misuse of the data, particularly with regard to child welfare or custody cases. In addition, at the tribal level, tribal health clinics that conduct blood-lead testing of tribal children often do not have the authority to release blood-lead data to tribal environmental or housing programs that are usually responsible for, and can conduct, environmental lead investigations or assessments to determine the source of the elevated blood-lead cases.

A second concern associated with blood-lead data is that in the absence of a significant number of cases of elevated blood-lead levels for a particular reservation, it may be assumed that no lead problem exists. Often times, the absence of highly elevated blood-lead cases does not mean that there are no

lead exposure problems at all. Often times, tribes are devoting scarce resources to address their lead-based paint exposure issues, sometimes at the expense of other environmental health issues, such as safe drinking water, construction of sanitary facilities, addressing indoor air problems such as mold and radon, and all of the other environmental health issues that are typically associated with pre-1978 housing.

The unavailability of lead-based paint abatement funding for tribes with identified lead-based paint problems continues to be perhaps the most vexing lead issue faced by tribes. Although the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has lead-based paint abatement grants that are available to qualified tribes and states to abate lead hazards in private housing stock, in order to qualify for these funds, tribes and states must have an EPA authorized lead-based paint program. As mentioned previously, however, difficulties in receiving EPA lead program authorization have restricted the number of eligible tribes nationwide to three.

For tribal-owned housing, such as housing managed by tribal governments or housing authorities, there are no sources of federal funds specifically for lead-based paint abatement projects. All federal grants that are available for lead-based paint abatement are designated for “private” housing stock. The policy basis for this



## News & Events

limitation is that, generally speaking, public housing is federally, state or city-funded and/or supported and, thus, has access to other abatement funding.

Unfortunately, most tribes do not have tax revenue or other income with which to address lead hazards in tribal housing. The result of this dilemma is that tribes are forced to utilize funding intended for other maintenance and renovation projects on lead-based paint abatements.

Considering that pre-1978 homes are often expensive to maintain and renovate, coupled with the high costs associated with lead-based paint abatement projects, tribes are forced to choose between lead-based paint abatement or other needed modernization projects. Also, as previously mentioned, a potential implication of conducting lead-based paint abatement activities or lead hazard reduction activities in the absence of dedicated funding is that other important environmental health issues may be ignored. Although lead-based paint baseline assessment grants have recently become available for tribes through EPA,

some tribes are reluctant to utilize these funds to evaluate tribal housing because of potential liability issues that may result. In addition, there is concern that identification of lead-based paint problems will create expectations that abatement or lead-hazard reduction activities will be conducted by the tribe. However, as indicated above, there are no dedicated sources of lead-based paint abatement funding for tribal-owned housing.

In summary, tribes face a complex array of lead-based paint issues that include program authorization difficulties, blood-lead testing concerns, and the general unavailability of funding to abate lead hazards on tribal lands. Each of these issues represents significant barriers to the implementation of effective tribal lead poisoning prevention programs. It is the hope of the FOSTTA Tribal Affairs Project that these barriers, which are unique to tribes, can be resolved through the cooperative efforts of tribes, responsible federal agencies, and if necessary, actions of the legislative branch of the federal government.

# The 7th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, Seeking Tribe to Host the Event

EPA is requesting proposals from federally-recognized Indian tribes or Intertribal consortia to host the 7th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (NTCEM). The Tribal Conference will provide an opportunity for tribal leaders, tribal environmental managers, tribal organizations, federal agencies, and other interested entities/persons to share information about tribal environmental programs and discuss issues of vital interest to Indian country. The scope of the conference traditionally encompasses multi-media environmental issues involving tribes. The goals for the conference are to facilitate tribal environmental programs, establish stronger networks and relationships across environmental efforts in Indian country, identify shared lessons learned, and familiarize tribes with the full extent of tribal and EPA program environmental activities. EPA will award a cooperative agreement to the selected host tribe to co-sponsor the conference, including personnel, planning, facilities and management expenses.

EPA has decided to sponsor the 7th NTCEM in Spring 2005, with OPPTS serving as the lead office for the event. In the past the NTCEM has been held biannually in the late

Spring which would place the 7th NTCEM sometime in late Spring 2004.

The decision to hold the conference in the spring of 2005 is being made because EPA and its tribal partners are planning several significant activities in the 2004 calendar year. Moreover, EPA is aware that the National Museum of the American Indian has planned to have its grand opening in the fall of 2004. EPA understands that there are a number of tribal activities and celebrations being held in conjunction with the Museum's opening and does not want to detract from these events. EPA also believes that spacing major tribal events more widely presents several positive benefits. It will help spread scarce tribal travel expenses over a longer period and encourage tribal participation at more events. Scheduling the NTCEM for the spring of 2005 would also give the host tribe additional time to plan for and work with other tribes across the country to ensure fuller participation and a diverse agenda more accurately reflecting tribal interest and issues.

EPA will be the federal co-sponsor of the NTCEM, and will work with the tribal co-sponsor to identify national tribal environmental issues and arrange for federal partici-

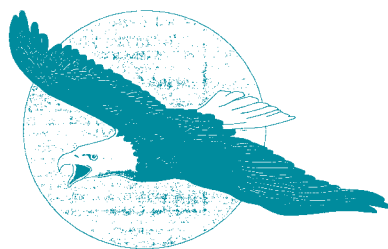
pation. EPA will provide technical assistance to the tribal co-sponsor, as needed, to resolve logistics and communication issues associated with the event. In consultation with the tribal co-host, EPA may advertise the conference in EPA websites, notices, newsletters and other internal EPA communications materials.

The most recent conference, hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, in Reno, Nevada, was very successful in content as well as in attendance. The conference agenda included all aspects of tribal environmental issues. Over 700 people attended this conference. Past conferences have drawn 500 - 700 participants representing more than 200 tribes, Native Alaskans, intertribal consortia, federal employees and private/nonprofit organizations.

Starting in 1992, the U.S. EPA has co-sponsored six bi-annual NTCEM conferences to provide an opportunity for tribal leaders, tribal environmental program managers, tribal organizations, federal agencies, and other interested entities to share information about tribal environmental programs and discuss issues of vital interest to Indian country. Topics at past conferences have helped to build tribal capacity in the following areas:



*Cherokee Nation (1992 and 1994 NTCEM co-sponsor)*



*Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation (1996 NTCEM co-sponsor)*



*Prairie Island Indian Comm (1998 NTCEM co-sponsor)*



*Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (2000 NTCEM co-sponsor)*

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- managing environmental programs (including integrated waste programs);
- grant assistance to tribes;
- addressing concerns about human health risks and subsistence;
- contracting, research, and business development opportunities;
- technology (GIS) and natural resource management; and
- air, water, and waste management issues.

The conference has traditionally been held in late Spring in the following locations,

- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Nevada (June, 2002)
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Oregon (June 2000)
- Prairie Island Indian Community, Minnesota (May 19-21, 1998)
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, Montana (May 1996)
- Cherokee Nation, North Carolina (May 23-26, 1994)
- Cherokee Nation, North Carolina (May 19-20, 1992)

For further information, contact Caren Rothstein-Robinson, OPPTS Conference Lead, 202-564-0544. A conference call for potential applicants to ask questions or seek pre-application assistance is scheduled for May 7, 2003, from 2:00 - 4:30 e.t. The call-in number is 202-260-1015. Enter the access code 4855#.



Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
(2002 NTCEM co-sponsor)

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2003-0018; FRL-7303-4]

National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management; Notice of Proposal Solicitation  
AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is requesting proposals from federally recognized Indian tribes or intertribal consortia to co-sponsor the 7th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (NTCEM). EPA will be the federal sponsor. The Tribal Conference will provide an opportunity for tribal leaders, tribal environmental managers, tribal organizations, federal agencies, and other interested entities/persons to share information about tribal environmental programs and discuss issues of vital interest to Indian country. The scope of the conference traditionally encompasses multi-media environmental issues involving tribes. The goals for the conference are to facilitate tribal environmental programs; establish stronger networks and relationships across environmental efforts in Indian country; identify shared lessons learned; and familiarize tribes with the full extent of tribal and EPA program environmental activities. EPA will award a cooperative agreement to the selected host tribe to co-sponsor the conference, including personnel, planning, facilities, and management expenses.

**DATES:** Proposals must be received or postmarked by June 23, 2003.

A conference call for potential applicants to ask questions or seek pre-application assistance is scheduled for May 7, 2003, from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time. Please call Caren Rothstein-Robinson at 202-564-0544 to obtain the conference call telephone number and the access code.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail proposals via the U.S. Postal Service (including express and priority mail) to: Clara Mickles, Environmental Protection Agency, American Indian Environmental Office, Mail code 4104M, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

Mail proposals via commercial overnight delivery service (e.g., FedEx, DHL, UPS) to: Clara Mickles, Environmental Protection Agency, American Indian Environmental Office, Room 3334, EPA East, Mail code 4104M, 1201 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caren Rothstein-Robinson, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Program Management Operations, Mail code 7101M, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-564-0544.

Applicants may submit written questions for clarification electronically to: rothstein-robinson.caren@epa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. General Information

###### A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of particular interest to federally recognized Indian tribes or tribal consortia. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

###### B. How Can I Get Copies of This Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2003-0018. The official public docket consists of documents specifically referenced in this action and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B-102 Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The EPA Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is 202-566-1744 and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is 202-566-0280.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this Federal Register document electronically through the EPA Internet under the Federal Register listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>. You may also access this document and copies of past conference agendas from EPA's American Indian Environmental Office's web page at <http://www.epa.gov/indian/>.

Significant questions and responses as well as any significant clarifications to this request for proposals will be posted on EPA's American Indian Environmental Office's web page at <http://www.epa.gov/indian/>.

\*In the Federal Register above, note that the postmark deadline for proposals is incorrect. The actual postmark deadline for proposals is July 23, 2003, not June 23, 2003.

### Government Science on the Web at Science.gov

Access to government science initiatives, projects, and data results is now provided in a new on-line format. Ten major science agencies collaborated to create science.gov (www.science.gov). Science.gov is the gateway to reliable information about science and technology from several federal government organizations.

From science.gov, users can find over one thousand government information resources about science. Users can access technical reports, journal citations, fact sheets, databases, and federal web sites. Access to the information is free, and no registration is required.

Typical users of Science.gov may include educational institutions, libraries, professionals, agency scientists, and those in the

public interested in science.

“Science.gov provides the unique ability to search across the content within databases as well as across web sites,” said Eleanor Frierson, Deputy Director of the National Agricultural Library and co-chair of the science.gov Alliance, the interagency group that created science.gov. “It shows that federal agencies can work together to pull off something none of them could do individually.”

The agencies participating in science.gov are EPA, the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, and Interior; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and the National Science Foundation.

Additional information is available at [www.science.gov](http://www.science.gov) or by contacting Valerie Allen at 865-576-3469, [allenv@osti.gov](mailto:allenv@osti.gov), or Sharon Jordan at 865-576-1194, [jordans@osti.gov](mailto:jordans@osti.gov).

“Science.gov aims to bring the substantial resources of the federal science and technology enterprise together, in one place. Working together, federal agencies have assembled countless pages of government research, data, and reports. The site is a great example of e-government in action,” said Dr. John H. Marburger, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President.

### National Pollution Prevention and Toxics Advisory Committee Seeks Candidates

EPA is inviting nominations of qualified candidates to consider an appointment to the National Pollution Prevention and Toxics Advisory Committee (NPPTAC or Committee). The purpose of NPPTAC will be to provide advice and recommendations to EPA regarding the overall policy and operations of the programs of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

Some of the areas to be addressed are risk assessment/ management; risk communications; pollution prevention; and coordination of OPPT programs with other governmental and non-governmental programs. The Agency is seeking nominations from a wide variety of organizations, including states, and tribes, industry, and non-governmental organizations. EPA is interested in creating a

diverse pool of candidates from which to establish a diverse membership. Additional information on how to submit nominations can be found in the Federal Register Notice at [www.epa.gov/fedrgstr](http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr), was published in April 2003. Interested parties may also contact an EPA NPPTAC representative at 202-564-9891 or [npptac.oppt@epa.gov](mailto:npptac.oppt@epa.gov).



**ANNOUNCING...**

# A Design the Kid's Page Contest

## WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

All children and youth in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to participate in a chance to imagine, create, and design their version of a one page, "KID'S PAGE" for EPA's *OPPTS Tribal News*. The top three Kid's Page designs will be featured in upcoming issues of the *OPPTS Tribal News* and/or the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC) outreach materials. Each of the top three winners also can expect to receive several special gift items from NTEC.

Top three winners from the Kid's Page contest will receive several special gift items from NTEC.

Due to an unexpected demand, "A Design the Kid's Page Contest" is now extended to October 31, 2003. All entries received by April 30, 2003 will still remain valid. These entries will be safeguarded and included with the entries received by the new extended due date, October 31, 2003.

## WHAT IS THE CONTEST ABOUT?

The Kid's Page is a regular feature in the *OPPTS Tribal News* and is geared for children in grades K-12. This page seeks to incorporate fun and education, allowing kids to learn about protecting and safeguarding public health through environmental and/or tribal-based themes. The contest hopes to have children use their own language (both visual and/or text-based language) to relate information about their environment to other children in a fun and educational way. This can be done by using pictures, traditional stories, puzzles, mazes, and other creations that will fit on an 8 1/2"x11" page.

## HOW CAN THE CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTEST?

All eligible contestants should submit their Kid's Page design along with the entry form on the back of this page, to NTEC by October 31, 2003. NTEC will review and judge all entries. NTEC will select three top winners and those top three winners will have their Kid's Page design displayed in subsequent editions of the *OPPTS Tribal News* and/or other NTEC outreach materials. Send all contest design entries in a postage paid envelope to:

National Tribal Environmental Council  
Kid's Page Contest  
2501 Rio Grande Boulevard, NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104



# Kid's Page Contest Entry Form

Please submit your design on an 8 1/2"x11" page and this Kid's Page Contest entry form by October 31, 2003 to:

National Tribal Environmental Council  
Kid's Page Contest  
2501 Rio Grande Boulevard, NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104.

Design Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Design Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

School Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

School Sponsor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Sponsor Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Kid's Page Contest Rules

How to Enter: Send an 8 1/2"x11" page displaying your design to: National Tribal Environmental Council, Kid's Page Contest, 2501 Rio Grande Boulevard, NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104. Limit one entry per person. Entrants must include full name, age, school affiliation, and complete school address. Entries must be postmarked by October 31, 2003. Winners will be announced on November 21, 2003. For a list of winners, please send a separate letter of request to OPPTS Tribal News, U.S. EPA, OPPT, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue (MC7408M), Washington, DC 20460. The National Tribal Environmental Council will not be responsible for printing errors or lost, late, illegible, incomplete, mutilated, or postage-due mail. Prize acceptance constitutes permission to use winner's name and their design in the future.



### AISES and its National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair 2003

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) sponsored its national science and engineering fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 13-15, 2003. The National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair (NAISEF) for American Indian students in grades 5 through 12 provides unprecedented exposure and experience for students that will enhance their college and professional pathways. There were more than 439 student projects in this year's science and engineering fair, and 15 winners received cash prizes and scholarships.

NAISEF took place at the Albuquerque Convention Center, and guests stayed at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque. The Science and Engineering Fair included open sessions on college preparatory activities for students, sessions for teachers on why students should participate in science fairs, and information on financial aid and mathematical strategies for parents of students. NAISEF also featured a College Fair during the events. The College Fair was open to regional high school students daily while colleges and universities displayed exhibits and catalogs for participants.

Also, the following NAISEF Grand Award winners will compete in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Cleveland, Ohio, May 11-17, 2003.

- Ernestine Chaco, Grade 12, Navajo Preparatory, Testing Solar Cells for Space Application, Phase I, Engineering
- Alicia Ortega, Grade 10, Pojoaque High School, Artificial Intelligence Using a Shaped Memory Alloy, Flexinol 100LT, Phase II, Engineering
- Jenna Parisien, Grade 11, Turtle Mountain Community High School, Is there a correlation between left-handed people and having a reading disability?, Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Jeremy Denlea, Grade 12, St. Pius X, The Abundance of CO-occurrence on Dictyostelids in Micro Environments, Environmental Science
- Hannah Worix, Grade 9, Purnell Swett High School, Herbs as Antibiotics: A 2nd Year study, Medicine & Health
- Shelly Davis, Grade 11, Turtle Mountain Community High School, The Highs and Lows of Daphnia, Just a Heartbeat Away, Zoology

For more information, please contact Cristy Davies at 505-765-1052, x108 or [cristy@aises.org](mailto:cristy@aises.org), or Grace Boyne at 505-765-1052, x118 or [grace@aises.org](mailto:grace@aises.org).

In 2003, AISES will celebrate its 25th National Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 20-23, 2003. The *Celebrating Our Journey, Sharing Our Vision*-themed 2003 National Conference will bring together American Indian students and professionals in the fields of science, engineering and technology. The national conference will feature a Career Fair, panel discussions, and workshops for participants. The national conference also will include a Traditional Honors Banquet to recognize hundreds of AISES scholarship winners and their benefactors.

Also, AISES is currently seeking artwork for the 25th Annual National Conference that reflects this year's theme *Celebrating Our Journey, Sharing Our Vision*. The selected artwork will be used on National Conference materials, such as t-shirts, conference bags, and other materials. Artwork may be multicolor but should easily convert to one color. Artwork must be submitted for consideration no later than June 16, 2003.

For more information, contact Cristy Davies at 505-765-1052, x108 or [cristy@aises.org](mailto:cristy@aises.org). Also, visit the AISES web site at [www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org).

## Mark Your Calendars!

### May 2003

13-15

Health and Well Being Workshop  
EPA ORD and Pyramid Lake  
John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel,  
Reno, Nevada  
Claudia Walters, 202-564-6762

### June 2003

2-4

National Source Water  
Conference  
EPA Office of Water  
Hotel Washington  
Washington, DC  
SDW Hotline, 800-426-4791  
Sylvia Malm, 202-564-3889

3-4

8th Annual Inter-Tribal  
Environmental Council Conference  
Doubletree Hotel  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
918-458-5496  
www.itcmembers.org

### July 2003

22-24

RevTech, Cleaning Up  
Contaminated Properties for  
Reuse and Revitalization  
EPA Technology Innovation Office  
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania  
Ann Eleanor, 703-603-7199  
Alina Martin, SAIC, 703-318-4678  
<http://brownfieldstsc.org>

### August 2003

10-12

2003 ECOS Annual Meeting  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
[www.ecos.org](http://www.ecos.org)

### September 2003

9-11

Workshop on Mining Impacted  
Native American Lands 2003  
EPA ORD  
Reno, Nevada  
Norma Lewis, 513-569-7665  
Alina Martin, SAIC, 703-318-4678  
[www.epa.gov/ttbnrmrl](http://www.epa.gov/ttbnrmrl)

## EPA Web sites and Hot Lines

<b>EPA</b>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov">www.epa.gov</a>
<b>OPP</b>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/">www.epa.gov/pesticides/</a>
<b>OPPT</b>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/opptintr">www.epa.gov/opptintr</a>
<b>Pollution Prevention</b>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home">www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home</a>
<b>American Indian Environmental Office</b>	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/indian">www.epa.gov/indian</a>
<b>Asbestos Ombudsman Hotline</b>	1-800-368-5888
<b>EPCRA Hotline</b>	1-800-535-0202
<b>Lead Hotline</b>	1-800-424-LEAD, 1-800-424-5323
<b>National Pesticide Telecommunication (NPTN) Hotline</b>	<a href="http://www.ace.orst.edu/info/nptn">www.ace.orst.edu/info/nptn</a> 1-800-858-7378
<b>TSCA Hotline</b>	202-554-1404

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