



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

Week of June 17th – June 21st, 2019

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PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

KNAU – [Bearing Witness: Voices Of Climate Change Part VII: Adapting Tribal Ceremonies to a Changing Climate](#)



Nikki Cooley with her dog, Mitchell. Nikki is a member of the Navajo Nation and is co-manager of NAU's Tribes and Climate Change Program. CREDIT KNAU/RYAN HEINSIUS

TOP STORIES

Washington Post - [Trump EPA finalizes rollback of key Obama climate rule that targeted coal plants](#)

EPA Invitation to Conference Call Briefing on the Affordable Clean Energy Rule

Today at 1:00 PM EDT, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a background briefing via phone on the Affordable Clean Energy Rule

for State, Tribal, and local officials. Please forward this invitation to officials who may be interested in participating.

WHO: Bill Wehrum, Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation; Joe Brazauskas, Acting Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

WHAT: Briefing Call on the Affordable Clean Energy Rule

WHEN: Wednesday, June 19, 2019; 1:00 – 1:30 PM EDT

WHERE: Via Phone. Call-in number and conference code is below:

Participant Toll Free Dial-In Number: (877) 744-6030

Conference ID: 3276026

Please dial in a few minutes early to ensure the operators have sufficient time to add all participants to the call. Thank you.

PM Uncertainty Peer Review Panel

EPA is developing new techniques to understand, characterize, and communicate the health benefits associated with reducing fine particles (PM_{2.5}) at low concentrations in the outdoor air and will be drafting a technical report about these techniques. EPA is convening a panel of independent scientific experts that will review the EPA report. The Agency is soliciting nominations for experts to join this peer review panel. Information about how to apply or nominate someone to the panel is available in the *Federal Register* and [at this link](#).

AP – [US air quality is slipping after years of improvement](#)

E&E News – [Trump efficiency plans could slow emissions reductions](#)

Indian Country Today – [147-year-old ‘finders keepers’ mining law threatens ancient Tlingit village, protects mining companies](#)

AP – [Trump EPA close to gutting Obama rule on coal power plants](#)

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Sacramento Bee - [Gavin Newsom apologizes on California’s behalf to native tribes for slaughter of ancestors](#)

ENN – [Industrial Methane Emissions Are Underreported, Study Finds](#)

Native Sun News – [Kyle scientist warns of heavy oil pressure on Great Plains wildlife](#)

NPR – [More Wildfires Bring Focus on How All That Smoke May Harm Firefighters](#)

NPR – [Trump Administration Seeking To Overhaul Forest Management Rules](#)

Minnesota Star Tribune - [Air pollution implicated in up to 4,000 Minnesota deaths a year](#)

Ensia – [Opinion: A New Generation of Leaders Understands That Individual Actions Won't Fix Our Environmental Problems](#)

EPA – [EPA Administrator Concludes Engagements at G20 Environmental Ministers Meeting](#)

E&E News – [U.S. backs G-20 plastics deal, but climate split persists](#)

E&E News – [Air Pollution: Court scraps greens' challenge to EPA permitting change](#)

USA Today - [United States' first Native American poet laureate is Joy Harjo](#)

National Association of Clean Air Agencies – [Washington Update](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Utility Dive – [Congress pushes for renewables to have same private investment incentives as fossil fuels](#)

The Guardian – [Climate crisis: Alaska is melting and it's likely to accelerate global heating](#)

E&E News – [IEA sets road map for 'clean' hydrogen](#)

Reuters – [Pope backs carbon pricing to stem global warming and appeals to deniers](#)

AP – [Progressive climate policy poised to pass in Oregon](#)

NPR – [As Polar Ice Cap Recedes, the U.S. Navy Looks North](#)

E&E News – [Are U.S. heat waves driven by Arctic warming?](#)

E&E News – [Supreme Court: Justices uphold Va. ban on uranium development](#)

Cronkite News – [Ranchers want dams to protect against drought, but could dams worsen climate change?](#)

Yes Magazine – [The Shoreline Still Provides Dinner, Despite Climate Change and Private Property](#)

Yes Magazine – [Paying Farmers Fairly Could Curb Climate Change and Hunger](#)

NY Times – [U.K. Will Cut Net Greenhouse Emissions to Zero, Theresa May Vows](#)

Carbon Brief – [In-depth: BP data reveals record CO2 emissions in 2018 driven by surging use of gas](#)

Utility Dive – [US power sector carbon emissions rise as natural gas outpaces renewables: Ceres](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

E&E News – [GM faces increased pressure from investors on climate](#)

KTOO Public Media - [How bad are cruise ship emissions in downtown Juneau? An air quality survey aims to find out.](#)

Indoor Air Quality

The Times – [Tackle scourge of indoor air pollution, doctors urge](#)

Be sure to subscribe to [EPA's IAQ Bulletins](#)

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UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Native Americans in STEM Fields Survey

We are seeking American Indian/Alaska Native individuals in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields who are willing to [complete an online survey](#) about their experiences with culturally-based conflicts in their workplace and/or during school years. If you identify as a Native American who is a student and/or works in a STEM field, and you are 18 years or older, please click the link below to complete our survey. Everyone who completes the survey will earn a \$20 gift card from Amazon. The data collected from this survey will inform future research efforts as well as recommendations to colleges, universities, and employers about how to better support Native Americans in STEM. This research is being done with funding from the National Science Foundation, and the lead researchers are Drs. Jani Ingram and Angelina Castagno from Northern Arizona University.

Tribal Consultation Opportunity on EPA's "Draft Guidance for allocating the Multipurpose Grant (MPG) for eligible Tribes" from the Office of International and Tribal Affairs. Start date: 6/17/19; End date: 7/12/19

This is a courtesy announcement that the USEPA intends to consult with tribal governments on the above mentioned action. This announcement is being sent both to tribal governments' representatives and other organizations such as EPA's tribal partnership groups that may also be interested in this action. Official notification of consultation will be sent to tribal governments potentially affected by this action. To obtain additional information about this action and other EPA consultations on going or planned [Click here to open "published list of consultations"](#)

Webinar: Environmental Education and Indigenous Knowledge, presented by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, July 2, 4:00-5:00 PM ET. We look forward to you joining us for the next installment of NAAEE's monthly webinar series. The presenter for this webinar is [Megan Bang](#) Associate Professor in Education and Indigenous Studies, Northwestern University. She will focus on the intersection of environmental education and indigenous knowledge. This is an opportunity to gain a new perspective on the depth of our field and shaping culturally inclusive environmental education opportunities. This webinar is free of charge. For more

information, please contact Colby Parkinson at colby@naaee.org or (202) 419-0412.

Region 9 Tribal/EPA Conference October 21-24, hosted by the Ak-Chin Tribe

Presenter Submission Information: deadline to submit a presentation is July 15

We hope you are excited for the upcoming conference! We are still looking for presentations for the 27th Annual EPA Region 9/ Tribal Conference. We would like the presentations to focus on topics such as: Land, Air, Solid Waste, Community Resiliency and Multi-Media. If you would like to submit a presentation proposal, [click here to submit a presentation!](#)

Tribal Success Posters Information: deadline to submit a poster is September 16

Tribal Success Posters are a way to showcase the environmental projects and achievements that your tribe has accomplished. The posters will be on display throughout the conference for all attendees to see! If you would like to get some inspiration in to making your own success poster, please [click here for a sample template, examples and submission location.](#)

Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET

[For more information, click here!](#)

Registration is open for the 2019 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum!

August 19-22, 2019 in Palm Springs, California

You can visit http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef where you'll be able to register, submit session proposals, and find out information about travel and lodging options. This year we'll be in beautiful Palm Springs, California. Sure, it's August in the desert, but given the hard winter many of you have dealt with this year, we figured this might help you thaw out! We have some really exciting new options for you this year. Over the last few months, we've been working with the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, as well as several other Tribes in the Palm Springs area, on some special field trips and cultural events that you won't want to miss. Also, for the first time, we're putting together a noon-time event on Wednesday that will feature a special guest. More details on those activities will be coming soon. We're all very much looking forward to seeing you at this year's TLEF! [More information here!](#)

NTAA Upcoming Calls. The toll-free number is 1-800-309-2350. If you do not need to call toll free, or would like to help conserve NTAA funding, you can call 1-805-309-2350. Both numbers use code 928-523-0526#.

Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

Registration instructions When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country	Thursday, June 20, 2pm ET
NTAA/EPA Air Policy Update Call: Receive air quality policy updates from EPA and NTAA	Thursday, June 27, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: A 3-part webinar series will replace the regular work group calls for the next few months. See below under "Indoor Air Quality" for more information.	Wednesday, July 10, 3pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: Formerly the VW Work Group, this Work Group will address all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, July 11, 2pm ET

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP's [2019 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	July 23-26	Flagstaff, AZ	2
R and Environmental Data Analysis	August 6-8	Temecula, CA	3
Treatment as a State (TAS)	September 10-11	Chicago, IL	2
Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities (lower 48)	TBD	TBD	1

IAQ Diagnostic Tools	TBD	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke	Anytime	6 recorded webinars	NA
Indoor Air Quality – Independent Study	Anytime	Independent Study	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Warm Climates	In development	Online	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online	1
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online	1
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Fundamentals (QA 101)	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (QA 201-209)	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online	3

Note: This schedule is subject to change. [Click here](#) for up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications. If you have questions regarding the pre-requisites or your eligibility for a course, please contact Patricia Ellsworth, Air Quality Curriculum Coordinator, at Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

Climate Change / Energy

ENERGY STAR webinars

June 13, 2 PM (ET) – Portfolio Manager & GRITS: Announcing a new initiative to help institutions better track energy efficiency projects

This webinar will highlight the complementary benefits of the U.S. EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool and the GRITS platform for tracking building-level and project-level data, respectively. The Sustainable Endowments Institute, a new ENERGY STAR Partner, is launching an initiative that provides Portfolio Manager users in city/county/state governments, healthcare, higher education, and K-12 schools with access to a free version of GRITS. GRITS is a project-management platform used by nearly 800 institutions to calculate, track, and share the energy, financial, and carbon savings data from their sustainability projects. With a broad range of users across sectors, both Portfolio Manager and GRITS are leading tools being used by institutions to better manage their energy

and carbon data. The webinar will include presentations on both platforms as well as a case study from the State of Vermont as both a Portfolio Manager and GRITS user.

[Register](#)

June 26, Noon (ET) – Portfolio Manager: Ask the Expert

Most Wednesdays ENERGY STAR holds a live webinar that gives all Portfolio Manager users an opportunity to ask their questions directly to EPA experts in an open forum.

[Register](#)

Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs webinars June 26, 1 PM (ET) - Jobs and Economic Development from Tribal Energy Projects

Among the benefits of energy project development to tribal communities are the jobs and economic development that come with local investment. This webinar will share tools and methods tribes can use to estimate the jobs and broader economic benefits of energy projects. The webinar will also feature case studies from tribes that have successfully created jobs and economic development through energy development.

[Register](#)

June 27, Noon (ET) – Portfolio Manager 301

With a good background on the basic functionality of EPA’s ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool, learn about some advanced features including: using spreadsheet upload templates to update property data; setting goals and targets to plan energy improvements for properties; creating custom reports; and using the Sustainable Buildings Checklist.

[Register](#)

National Renewable Energy Laboratory webinars

July 10, 1 PM (ET) – Up to the Challenge: Communities Deploy Solar in Underserved Markets

This webinar will discuss new research on low-income community solar projects and programs. The U.S. Department of Energy launched the Solar in Your Community Prize Challenge in 2016. DOE selected 178 teams spanning 40 states with the goal to deploy 1,600 megawatts of solar by 2020. The [new NREL research](#) provides a summary of the key lessons learned and takeaways for other communities interested in replicating these approaches nationwide. This webinar

will provide summary results from NREL's research along with insights from two winning teams – The CARE Project and Kerrville Area Solar Partners.

[Register](#)

USET Climate Resilience Summit August 27-29, Verona, NY

USET will be holding its Climate Resilience Summit August 27-29 at the Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, NY, on the Oneida Indian Nation. For registration please [follow this link](#). This summit is meant to bring Tribal experts and partners together to share knowledge and best practices in building climate change resilience. Presenters and facilitators will include:

- * Tribal Nations with climate adaptation plans
- * Local practitioners in resilience building
- * Partners from the Northeast & Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Centers

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

HUD Webinar, June 20, at 2:00 pm: Serving Native Americans with Healthy Homes Resources

Presenters: Michael Goldschmidt, Director – National Healthy Homes Partnership; and Art Nash, Associate Professor, School of Natural Resources and Extension, University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Target Audience: OLHCHH tribal grantees; a variety of stakeholders serving Native Americans.

Purpose: This webinar will highlight four new tribal publications and related app being developed through OLHCHH and USDA NIFA, with extensive input from a cross section of stakeholders and tribes. The webinar will briefly describe the process used to develop these educational materials and the prototype tribal app, and delivery/dissemination plan.

- Content includes a 15-minute review of the scope of the outreach effort/publications; and how the materials are tailored to four audiences across Indian Country.
- New Tribal App Sneak Peek.
- 5 minutes on the prototype of the tribal app and how it will work, and benefits.

- How to access, contribute and use these resources.

Theme Focus: Highlights some common healthy homes in Native American homes; how to get started in 5 minutes!

To register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4179992863226382595>

NTAA’s Indoor Air Quality Work Group Presents an Informational Webinar: Policy Tools to Address Vaping and E-Cigarettes in Tribal Communities on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 2:00 pm ET

This webinar will explore vaping and e-cigarettes and how Tribes can create and utilize policy tools to reduce IAQ threats from this emerging trend in tobacco use. The 1 ½ hour-long webinar will include speakers from the California Department of Public Health’s Tobacco Control Program (CDPH). You can [register here](#).

Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD’s Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

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RESOURCES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

To view and/or receive ITEP’s American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Achieving Results with Energy Efficiency: EPA's new Guidebook for Energy Efficiency Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification

Today, jurisdictions around the country continue to use proven energy efficiency policies and programs to meet electricity demand, support economic growth, and avoid generation and pollution from power plants. Every U.S. state currently administers some type of demand-side energy efficiency program, while 25 have adopted a statewide energy efficiency resource standard and others require utilities to deliver “all cost-effective energy efficiency.” To ensure this \$6 billion investment is achieving intended levels of energy savings and emissions reductions, states and cities are adopting and refining requirements for evaluating, measuring, and verifying (EM&V) their energy efficiency investments. EPA’s new [Guidebook for Energy Efficiency Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification](#) draws from and builds on decades of state, local, and private-sector experience

quantifying and verifying savings from energy efficiency projects and measures. The EM&V Guidebook is designed to help state, local, and tribal air and energy officials—as well as key stakeholders such as utility energy efficiency implementers—learn about, establish, or refine their EM&V approaches. The EM&V Guidebook can also help air officials understand the basics of EM&V and work with their energy counterparts to capture the air quality and public health benefits of these existing investments. The guidebook is also designed to:

- Describe key EM&V topics, methods, and approaches
- Ensure that customer-funded EE policies and programs are achieving intended results in a cost-effective manner
- Ensure that EM&V is carried out in a well-documented, rigorous, and consistent manner

The EM&V Guidebook may also help jurisdictions who want to collaborate on air and energy goals, evaluate the resulting air and energy impacts, and plan new policies and programs. [Learn more](#) about EM&V for energy efficiency policies and initiatives

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat](#)'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's [Climate Change newsletter, click here!](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

June Is National Healthy Homes Month

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) joins the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD) in recognizing June as National Healthy Homes Month. Take this opportunity to learn about the relationship between indoor air, housing and health. Check out the [resources](#) available to advocates of healthy housing. [EPA's Indoor Environments Division](#) shares HUD's goal of ensuring healthy homes by maintaining healthy indoor air. The following strategies will help to maintain and improve your home's indoor air quality (IAQ):

- [Source Control](#)—Eliminate pollution sources or reduce emissions. For example, adjust emissions from gas stoves and eliminate sources of mold and moisture.
- [Better Ventilation](#)—Use exhaust fans when cooking or showering.

- [Filters and Air Cleaners](#)—Change the filter in your heating/cooling system, following the manufacturer’s recommendations. Using an air-cleaning device also may be an option.

You can improve your home’s air quality by [using “green” cleaning products](#), [not smoking indoors](#), [testing your home for radon](#) and [upgrading your heating and cooling systems](#) to be cleaner and more energy efficient, among many [other actions](#).

Celebrate National Healthy Homes Month with EPA’s Indoor Environments Division and HUD! Follow the links below to resources that can help you improve your home’s IAQ:

- [Protect the IAQ in Your Home: What You Can Do Now](#)
- [Interactive Mold House Tour](#)
- [The Healthy Homes Program](#)

Announcing New Webpages to Help You Protect Your Family From Wildfire Smoke Indoors

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Indoor Environments Division is pleased to announce the availability of two new webpages with information to help you protect your family from wildfire smoke indoors:

- [Wildfires and Indoor Air Quality](#)
- [Create a Clean Room to Protect Indoor Air Quality During a Wildfire](#)

If you live in an area where the [wildfire risk is high](#), being [prepared](#) for fire season is especially important for the health of children, older adults, and people with heart or lung disease. Visit these webpages to learn about—

- How to adjust your heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system or air conditioner to keep smoke out.
- What to look for in a [portable air cleaner or high-efficiency HVAC filter](#).
- How to set up a clean room in case you need to stay indoors at home during periods of heavy smoke.
- What you can do to avoid creating [fine particles indoors](#) if you are affected by wildfire smoke.

To learn more about protecting your indoor air and health, visit www.epa.gov/iaq. For current fire conditions and additional resources on wildfires and smoke, visit the [AirNow Fires: Current Conditions](#) page.

Be sure to sign up for [EPA’s Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Now Hiring!

1854 Treaty Authority is hiring a Climate Specialist

Deadline to apply: June 21, 2019

[More information here.](#)

The City of Phoenix is hiring an Air Quality and Climate Specialist

Closing date: 6/24/19

[More information here.](#)

Region 9 EPA (San Francisco office) is hiring an Environmental Engineer

Closing date: 6/28/19

Appointment Type: Recent Graduates

More information contact Greg Richmond, 513-569-7281,

Richmond.gregory@epa.gov

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

DOI FWS Multistate Conservation Grant Program – \$6 million

Applications Due: July 26, 2019

Eligible Entities: state governments

The primary goal of the Multistate Conservation Grant Program is to provide grant funds to address regional or national priority needs (National Conservation Needs or NCNs) of the State fish and wildlife agencies (States) and their partners that are beyond the scope and capabilities of a single State. Projects awarded funding are published annually in the Federal Register. Projects funded through the MSCGP provide grant funds to address regional or national level priority needs of the States that are beyond the scope and capabilities of a single State. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Grants Program

On May 7, 2019, the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) published the [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#) for the [Indian Housing Block Grant \(IHBG\) Competitive Grants Program](#). This NOFA announces the availability of \$198 million for competitive grants to Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities eligible to receive IHBG funding under the Native

American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.).

To assist tribes in preparing their applications, HUD's Area Offices of Native American Programs (AONAPs) are holding in-person trainings on the grants program. The Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) has scheduled on-site and in-person trainings on IHBG Competitive Grants Program NOFA eligibility and requirements. The trainings will take place at all six (6) AONAP locations, as follows:

AONAP Office	City	State	Scheduled Training Dates
Northern Plains	Denver	CO	June 11–12, 2019
Alaska	Anchorage	AK	June 12–13, 2019
Northwest	Seattle	WA	June 18–19, 2019
Southwest	Phoenix	AZ	June 19–20, 2019
Southern Plains	Oklahoma City	OK	June 25–26, 2019
Eastern Woodlands	Chicago	IL	July 9–10, 2019

Your AONAP office will be in touch soon with details such as registration, location and times. ONAP staff will provide the training and cover NOFA requirements, including threshold requirements, technical rating factors and post-award reporting requirements. There will be opportunities to ask questions. Applications are due August 8, 2019. These funds can be used for a range of housing work, which could include rehabilitation work that improves indoor air quality. Apply at www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=315659. Please locate and read the Dear Tribal Leader letter [here](#).

DOI FWS State Wildlife Grant Program – \$1 million

Applications Due: August 31, 2020

Eligible Entities: state governments

The State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program provides States, the District of Columbia, Commonwealths, and Territories (States) Federal grant funds for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished. Eligible activities include both conservation planning and implementation activities. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to **[Funding Opportunities!](#)** Additionally, THHN has developed a **[Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities.](#)**

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here.](#)

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