

**Tribal Monitoring Guidance Workgroup Conference Call
9/19/05**

Attendees:

Bill Grantham (NTEC), Leroy Williams (Gila River), Lisa Reiner (Quinault Nation), Stephen Hartsfield (NTAA), Keith Rose (R10), Michael Copeland (R8), Motria Caudill (R5), Norm Beloin (R1), Joe Tikvart OAQPS/SEE), Julie McClintock (OAQPS), Phil Lorang (OAQPS)

Discussion:

Julie McClintock introduced the discussion by indicating that the purpose of today's call was to address progress reports in developing individual sections and to obtain feedback on distributed material. Most attendees had a lead or major role in developing one of the sections. First, we discussed a revised Table of Contents for the report that is being proposed by Bill Grantham. It quickly became clear that the revision is more oriented to grouping the proposed twelve sections, rather than making changes in the chapter headings. Bill described the new general headings as: background, policies and strategies, guidance for Tribes, and Tribal perspective. The last section on Tribal perspective may be supplemented by supporting statements at the end of individual sections. No concerns about the proposed structure were voiced. There was agreement to mull it over and discuss it with the full group at the next meeting on September 26.

Next, we began reports and discussion of progress on individual sections of the Tribal ambient monitoring guidance document.

I. Purpose and Audience

Bill Grantham, Mehrdad Khatibi, and Julie McClintock have had a conference call and the revised Table of Contents is a product. Further calls are planned to edit and make the purposes of the document more clear..

II. Guidelines for EPA Support for Tribal Air Monitoring

Due to the press of air monitoring demands for areas affected by Hurricane Katrina, Phil Lorang has not had time to address this topic.

III. Background for Planning Tribal Air Monitoring

Joe Tikvart reported that a rough draft of this section has been completed but that further work on the relationship to Tribal needs is necessary.

IV. Tribal Air Quality Issues, Relevant Ambient Air Monitoring, and Current and Recent Tribal Air Monitoring Activities Directed Towards These Issues

Norm Beloin reported that a straw proposal will be completed this week for circulation and comment by the section team. A copy will be sent to Julie/Phil. Norm will return to this effort after October 4.

V. Implementation of Monitoring

No representative for this section was on the phone.

VI. The Role of Tribal Monitoring in the National Monitoring Strategy

Phil Lorang will address this issue.

VII. Understanding Monitoring Data and Its Implications

Motria Caudill indicated that she had developed some ideas, but had not yet been able to discuss them with members of the section team. Her ideas include: background on the purpose and objectives of monitoring, the role of DQOs and QAPPs, secondary benefits of monitoring including NAAQS determinations and impacts of air toxics on health, role of source-receptor techniques, and references to other documents.

VIII. Storage and Access to Monitoring Data

No representative for this section was on the phone; Julie will contact Farshid.

IX. Assessment of Ambient Air Quality in Indian Country in the Absence of Air Monitoring

Keith Rose indicated that a conference call had been held among section team members to discuss concepts. The concepts include using spatial interpolation to identify impacts in Tribal areas where no monitors are available and application of air quality models such as CMAQ and CALPUFF to supplement a lack of monitored data. The following individuals were identified as candidates for writing the material on models: Pat Dolwick (OAQPS), Herman Wong (R10), Glenn Gehring (TAMS), and Ryan Callison (ITEC). Keith will seek the assistance of one or more of these individuals.

X. How to Request EPA Funding and Other Support

Stephen Hartsfield indicated that he had discussed this topic with Ken Cronin and Bill Grantham. They will begin to address this topic and will consider performance-based measures as part of the process.

XI. Other Air Quality Management Program Elements

No representative of this section was on the phone. However, Leroy Williams volunteered to contact other tribes to determine whether contributions from other work (e.g., TAMS) could be useful; input might be provided at the time of the NTAA meeting.

XII. The Tribal Perspective

Lisa Riener has discussed this topic with Annabelle Allison. They plan to address Tribal perspectives with a Tribal data group next week since there has

been a compilation over the last five years of related information. Good progress is expected.

Julie noted that it was encouraging to hear of the progress that had been made. The need for the individual section teams to continue communications and to begin the writing process was emphasized.

In preparation for the NTAA meeting scheduled for the first week of October, it was suggested that an alternative to presenting a draft report might be worthy of consideration, since it is clear that major parts will not be completed before the meeting. Julie suggested that each lead person could prepare a single paragraph describing the contents of their section, so that the presentation might take the form of a complete, consistent annotated outline, rather than an incomplete and spotty draft. There was considerable discussion of this proposal with a range of possibilities presented. Stephen emphasized that the main point is that the meeting is an opportunity to get feedback from as many as 50 Tribal representatives, many with experience in air monitoring related matters, and to pick their brains for comments and critiques over a period of several hours which may include focused break-out groups. Therefore, he encouraged us to make as much material as available, even though not fully complete, to facilitate review and dialogue.

The conclusion of this discussion was to present in written form a paragraph for each section heading. Group leads would produce a paragraph and discussions questions in consultation with their group. In addition if drafts of individual sections are available we will share them. Julie and Joe ask that summary paragraphs, outlines, questions, and fully written material for all sections be sent by September 28 in time to complete before the NTAA meeting, the following week. The possibility of several members of this writing team to attend the NTAA meeting was also discussed. Norm Beloin will attend.

Next Steps:

The goal is still to have draft guidance materials available for review by the time of the NTAA meeting that is scheduled for October 3 - 6, 2005.

- Each Section lead should submit summary paragraphs, outlines, questions, and fully written section material that is available to Julie before COB on Thursday, September 28.
- The next conference call for the full group is planned for Monday, September 26 at 1:00pm EDT; conference line will be (919) 541-4557. The status of the draft report and supporting materials will be reviewed during this meeting. Input comments and additional volunteers for writing contributions will be sought.