

**National Pollution Prevention Roundtable
Tribal P2 Workgroup Conference Call
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Time: 2 pm EDT, 1 pm CDT, Noon MDT, 11am PDT, 10am AKST
Call in Number: 888-296-6500; Passcode 547845**

1) Introductions (28 Participants)

Shannon Judd, FDL Reservation
Mary Lauterbach, US EPA
Monty Davis, Potawatomi
Dolly Tong, EPA
Garrett Smith, EPA
Michelle Baker, EPA
Marian Epply, Ponca Tribe
Amy Sam, Energy Program
Sherry Benno, Maliseet Tribe
Willard Chin, EPA Reg. IX
Sarvy Medavi, EPA Reg. IX
and many others

2) Guest Speaker: Lizana Pierce, Department of Energy's Tribal Energy Group
<http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/>

Lizana is with DOE's Golden Field Office. The last ten years have been with the Tribal Energy Program. Their mission is to promote tribal energy development through renewable technology. Vision is in collaboration with tribes that would like to develop the resources, and their partners. The impetus for the program resulted from input they received. They would like to provide information on renewable resources and empower tribes to improve quality of life.

They are a very small department. Eligible recipients consist of all federally recognized tribes. \$5 million per year is their current allocation. Weatherization activities are eligible for funding, as is building efficiency, and pre-construction and deployment of renewable. 93 projects since 2002. 16.5 million \$ was invested in total. 13.5 million investment in recent awards.

They also provide technical assistance. There is a form interested groups can submit on their website.

A Guide to Tribal Energy Development is available through the website, and walks through strategic planning, vision, feasibility studies across all renewables, geothermal, and hydropower. Many of their projects advanced toward construction, and so business formation and financing is also an important aspect of development.

Student intern program. To be eligible, the students need to be enrolled in college, and the application went out last week. If you know of interested students, have them complete and submit the application.

Examples:

- Citizen Potawatomi. Several years ago, they explored ground source heat pumps. The tribe has used it extensively for their hotel, golf course. They now have a drilling rig to install ground source heat pumps for new residential sites.
- Tulalip Tribe. There was a partnership with the state, which provided a land grant. Manure was leaching into the water, jeopardizing fish health. The tribe used the waste as an energy source and helped address the environmental problem.
- Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. For a 100 MW wind farm, the grant funded pre-construction activity
- Augustine Band of Cahuilla. Solar was identified as a resource. Tribe invested \$3.5 million, installed 1 MW facility to power building outside of Palm Springs
- Ramona Band. Land-locked tribe without access to electricity. They looked at an ecotourism venture, and used renewable energy to power the venture.

Q&A:

- Case examples funding source? The projects were funded by DOE Tribal Energy Program.
- Applicants from AK? They have funded quite a few projects in AK. Their website lists all projects that they've conducted
- Is hiring someone to assess energy resources allowed? They have offered funding for tribes to assess energy options in the past using external expertise. This is subject to Congressional appropriation each year, and it is unclear if this practice will continue for FY 2011
- Do they have other programs that fund construction as well as feasibility analysis? EPA is trying to assess to what extent GAP environmental planning funds is applicable to energy planning. Because of the level of funding they have, the last appropriation did allow construction, but they don't have very much money. USDA Rural Development and BIA do have funds for construction. Many incentives for individuals flow through state (incentives, rebates, etc.) rather than federal.
- Were Southern California tribes able to proceed because they invested their own funds? Chairperson of the Augustine Band believed in the tribe making an investment; the Ramona Band received funds from a suite of funding sources to proceed.
- Any examples of DOE and BIA working together for energy development? Not directly. There was some indirect work around forest fuels and fire hazard management.
- Projects on BLM land? They are limited to owned tribal lands, or where tribes have long-term leases.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

\$54 million allocated to recognized tribes and AK groups. Allocations were formula based. These could be another source of funding for energy work. Many tribes were using it for planning or work with housing stock. Because of the size of the grant, there were 2300 entities called upon to process the grants. Her office will be managing the tribal grants. She is hoping they can get better information act. There is an incredible amount of reporting required for the grants.

Many of the tribes were not notified in a timely fashion. Be assured that remaining tribes that have been notified will be.

Tribes that did not submit were notified and Lizana expects those tribes can submit for EECBG funding through November.

Native Workplace has a framework for tribal energy and other resources at www.nativeworkplace.com

3) Announcements

TribalP2 is accepting feedback on the draft letter to EPA and DOE about EECBG and other funds. Comments on the draft sent out to the list-serve last week can be sent to djaber@sfo.com

TribalP2 is accepting nominations for co-chair. See e-mail sent last week. Nominations can be sent to myla.kelly@montana.edu. Forward any questions to djaber@sfo.com or shannonjudd@fdlrez.com

The White House Tribal Leaders Summit on 11/5/09 will be streamed live at www.mytribetv.com