



# Tribal Exchange Network News



Spring/Summer 2016

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## Important Dates:

**August 15-18, 2016**

Tribal Lands & Environment Forum - Mohegan Sun, CT

**September 28-29, 2016**

E-Enterprise Leadership Council (EELC) Meeting - Wheeling, WV

**October 25-27, 2016**

EE/EN Management Board (MB) and Interoperability & Operations Team (IOT) Meetings - Denver, CO

## For More Information:

[Tribes & the Exchange Network](#)

A resource for tribes interested in information and assistance on Exchange Network topics.

[Exchange Network](#)

The Exchange Network's main website with information on technical resources, data partners, and governance.

[EPA's EN Grants](#)

EN grant solicitation

## EPA Initiates Follow-up Tribal Consultation on E-Enterprise Leadership Council Draft Charter

On May 27, the US EPA initiated a follow-up tribal consultation on the development of the draft charter for the E-Enterprise Leadership Council (EELC). Specifically, EPA is seeking comments and input on the following areas: 1) a process for nominating and selecting tribal representatives to serve on the EELC, 2) the topic of whether or not to support a neutral organization to facilitate tribal involvement in the EELC, and 3) the overall number of tribal representatives serving on the EELC.

The Exchange Network's Tribal Governance Group (TGG) encourages tribes and tribal organizations to review the charter language and provide their comments to EPA. The consultation period ends July 29, 2016. The official notice and current version of the draft charter can be found on EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities webpage:

<https://tcots.epa.gov/oita/TConsultation.nsf/>

## FY17 EN Grant Solicitation Stakeholder Draft Now Available

EPA's Office of Environmental Information has released the FY2017 Exchange Network Grant Solicitation Notice Stakeholder Draft for review and comment. EPA will be hosting two teleconferences for questions and answers regarding the draft notice. The Draft Notice is available on [EPA's Exchange Network website](#). Written comments should be emailed to Ryan Humrighouse ([humrighouse.ryan@epa.gov](mailto:humrighouse.ryan@epa.gov)). **EPA will accept comments on the Draft Notice until 5:00 PM Eastern, August 5, 2016.** EPA plans to issue the Final FY 2017 EN Grant Solicitation Notice by early September 2016.

The first call will be held on **Wednesday, August 3, 2016, from 1:00-2:00 PM EDT**. The second call will be held on **Thursday, August 4, 2016, from 1:00-2:00 PM EDT**. To participate in either call, please dial: 1.866.299.3188, and enter conference code: 202 566 1691#

## TRES Network Tribal Users Mentorship Meeting

In March, tribal users of the TRES (TRiBal EXchange Network) effort met in Phoenix, Arizona for two days of group mentoring and information sharing. The TRES project is an Exchange Network project headed by the Walker River Paiute Tribe.

Eight tribal attendees from across the country who are working on similar TRES projects participated in the mentoring workshop. All left with a sense of accomplishment from the experience, as well as specific take-away tasks to follow up on when they returned home. The session was initiated by requests received from TRES member tribes, who worked with ITEP staff to determine the most essential topics to cover. The contractor for TRES also made staff available for the session, which enabled tribes to interact directly to address key areas of concern.

*"The information provided in the training really helped me understand the TRES program better."*

*- Workshop Attendee*

If your tribe has a training or mentorship need related to Exchange Network activities, or you have suggestions for other group mentoring topics, contact [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu).

## Exchange Network Secures a Spot at the Tribal Lands & Environment Forum

Tribal and EPA staff will be presenting on Exchange Network and E-Enterprise topics at the upcoming [Tribal Lands and Environment Forum \(TLEF\)](#) August 15-18 at the Mohegan Sun Resort. Several presentations are being planned, including one special training and information session on Tuesday morning. ITEP staff will be co-hosting a table on Exchange Network and E-Enterprise during the Multi-media Meetup information-sharing session on Wednesday. A number of other presentations throughout the agenda will discuss data-related activities from a wide spectrum of projects.

Below are some Exchange Network-related highlights; for a complete agenda and more information on the TLEF, visit the [TLEF website](#).

- <> *Successful Tribal Environmental Network Projects* - BryAnna Vaughan, Bishop Paiute Tribe and Angie Reed, Penobscot Nation
- <> *Utilizing the Exchange Network to Update Tribal Facility Registry Services (FRS) Data* - David Smith, USEPA Office of Environmental Information
- <> *Tribal Road Map for Water Quality (A Joint Tribal/USEPA Governance Project)* - Angie Reed, Penobscot Nation and Laura Shumway, USEPA Office Of Water
- <> *Panel Discussion with EPA and Tribal Staff* - Featuring BryAnna Vaughan, Bishop Paiute Tribe and Angie Reed, Penobscot Nation; Andy Battin, USEPA E-Enterprise for the Environment; Matt Leopard, USEPA Office of Environmental Information and Lynn Capuano, E-Enterprise/Exchange Network
- <> *Open Source Applications for Water Quality and Emergency Response* - Frank Harjo, Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Doug Timms, Open Environment Software
- <> *Overview of Water Data Sharing Using WQX* - Laura Shumway, USEPA
- <> *Region 6 Water Quality Reporting Pilot* - Micco Emarthla, Seneca-Cayuga Nation of Oklahoma and Laura Shumway, USEPA
- <> **AND MANY, MANY MORE!**

### WQX Technical Assistance @ TLEF

EPA's Office of Water is offering two live sessions on WQX/STORET in advance of the TLEF, where one-on-one technical assistance will be available by appointment. The following webinars will provide helpful information on flowing water quality data and will prepare attendees to make the most of their one-on-one appointment. If you are interested in scheduling an individual appointment during the conference, send an email to [STORET@epa.gov](mailto:STORET@epa.gov). In the subject line write "WQX Appointment Request" and remember to include your preferred appointment times.

- <> *Webinar #1: An Introduction to WQX Web and STORET* - July 28, 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern
- <> *Webinar #2: Preparing your data for WQX Web Submissions* - August 11, 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern

Use the following webinar link and call-in number to access BOTH webinars:

<http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/wqxqa/>

Call-in number: 866-299-3188 (access code: 202-566-2514#)

## E-Enterprise and Exchange Network Seek Tribal Representatives for Project Teams

The E-Enterprise and Exchange Network governance groups are currently moving forward on various projects and are seeking qualified tribal representatives to participate on project teams and workgroups. If you are interested in participating, or you have additional questions about the scope of the teams or responsibilities of team members, please contact the individuals referenced below.

### Combined Air Emissions Reporting (CAER)

EPA collects emissions data from regulated entities under a variety of authorities under numerous programs. Currently, this information is collected in a variety of formats and in accordance to different reporting schedules. Harmonizing reporting could save considerable resources for as well provide a single consolidated website where integrated emissions inventory information could be found in a transparent fashion. A successful scoping phase and Lean approach has led to 5 "short term win" projects that are now moving the overall effort forward.

To stay updated on this project, subscribe to the project listserv by sending email to [join-caer@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-caer@lists.epa.gov). For more information, or to get involved directly, contact: [Houyoux.Marc@epa.gov](mailto:Houyoux.Marc@epa.gov)

### Advanced Monitoring

In April 2016, the E-Enterprise Leadership Council recommended five actions that EPA and states should work on together to fully take advantage of rapid changes in environmental monitoring technology. The recommendations are: (1) Perform a detailed options and feasibility analysis on the creation of an independent third-party evaluation/certification program to ensure that clear and objective information on the quality of new technologies is available. (2) Develop and start executing technology scanning and screening procedures within EPA and the states, and provide support to help our users make decisions on which equipment they should purchase or pilot. (3) Develop messaging and tools to support the interpretation of monitoring results to ensure that data (especially from continuous and short-term monitors) are properly interpreted and communicated to the public. (4) Develop data use types (tiers) and data standards for advanced monitoring technologies to allow numerous and diverse entities to distribute, share and integrate data/ (5) Lean the current technology approval processes to ensure that regulatory, permitting and compliance programs operate as efficiently as possible. For more information, or to get directly involved, contact: [Wyeth.George@epa.gov](mailto:Wyeth.George@epa.gov)

### Measures & Metrics

Measures and metrics have been developed for the E-Enterprise business strategy through focused gap analysis. Next steps will include defining a preliminary set of requirements for processes needed to implement the measures and metrics recommendations. For more information, or to get directly involved, contact: [Cronkhite.Leslie@epa.gov](mailto:Cronkhite.Leslie@epa.gov)

## EN/EE Open Call: Navigating and Optimizing Centralized Information Technology

The Exchange Network and E-Enterprise community convene EN/EE Open Calls to increase information sharing among Partners. These calls are an opportunity for the community to gather and discuss topics of interest.

The next Open Call, to be held **August 1, 2016, at 3:00pm ET**, is entitled *Navigating and Optimizing Centralized Information Technology (IT)*. Panelists from the state of Colorado, Illinois, Montana, Iowa and Oklahoma will discuss their experiences transitioning to centralized IT, how centralized IT has transformed their agency, and how the transition has impacted maintenance and support for their agencies' Exchange Network data flows. Descriptions of the centralized IT structure for each of the panelists' states are available at [http://www.exchangenetwork.net/01Aug16\\_OpenCall.docx](http://www.exchangenetwork.net/01Aug16_OpenCall.docx).

To participate in the Open Call, please pre-register at: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5176677041479035138>

### Bit and Bytes

<<>> **New to AQS (or need a refresher)?** Check out ITEP's *AQS Fast-Track* videos—14 short video tutorials designed to get you entering data into AQS fast! Find them online [HERE](#).

<<>> **Confused about QA/QC?** ITEP's new online training site boasts a free course on Quality Assurance fundamentals, with straight-forward lessons relevant to a wide variety of environmental monitoring and data collection activities. Check out this FREE course [HERE](#).

<<>> **EPA releases mobile-friendly guidance on solvents in the workplace.** This guide is designed to help people who use and discard solvents be aware of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste regulations and assist them in making correct hazardous waste determinations. View the guidance document [HERE](#).

<<>> **In need of assistance with an EN project?** We can help! Visit our website, download the [EN Mentorship Request Form](#), and submit the completed form to [ITEP](#).

<<>> **Have expertise to share? Become a mentor to other tribes!** Contact [ITEP](#), or submit the short online form [HERE](#) to sign up to be a mentor; we'll profile you on our website so tribes in need of relevant guidance or assistance know where to turn.

**\*\*\*\*\*Tribal\*\*Consultation\*\*Opportunities\*\*\*\*\***

<<>> **Baseline Tribal Water Quality Standards:** EPA is conducting consultation and coordination with tribes on its proposed rulemaking to establish baseline water quality standards (WQS) for waters on Indian reservations that do not have Clean Water Act (CWA) WQS in place. **The deadline for submittal of comments is August 31, 2016.** For more information, visit the [TCOTS website](#).

<<>> **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Public Participation Manual Update:** EPA is conducting consultation and coordination with tribes on the draft RCRA Participation Manual, 2016 Edition. **The deadline for submittal of comments is August 8, 2016.** For more information, visit the [TCOTS website](#).

<<>> **Guidelines for Human Exposure Assessment:** EPA is conducting a consultation and coordination process with tribes and is soliciting input on its draft "Guidelines for Human Exposure Assessment." **The deadline for submittal of comments is September 12, 2016.** For more information, visit the [TCOTS website](#).

<<>> **Draft Guidance for Fish Consumption Surveys:** EPA is conducting a consultation and coordination process with tribes and is soliciting input on its draft "Draft Guidance for Fish Consumption Surveys." **The deadline for submittal of comments is September 13, 2016.** For more information, visit the [TCOTS website](#).

<<>> **Sign up for TCOTS emails:** Stay up-to-date on current and upcoming EPA consultation opportunities for tribal governments. Sign up for the Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) email list by sending a request to: [Join-epa\\_tcots@lists.epa.gov](mailto:Join-epa_tcots@lists.epa.gov). You can also view current initiatives on the TCOTS website: <http://tcots.epa.gov/>.

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## Contact Us!

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)  
Northern Arizona University  
Box 15004  
Flagstaff, AZ 86011

Ph: 928.523.6887  
[TGG@tribalexchangenetwork.org](mailto:TGG@tribalexchangenetwork.org)

[www.nau.edu/itep](http://www.nau.edu/itep)  
[www.tribalexchangenetwork.org](http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org)  
[www.exchangenetwork.net](http://www.exchangenetwork.net)

*Have events, announcements, ideas or stories to share?*

*Interested in a particular topic you want to hear more about?*

*Other questions or thoughts?*

**Please contact us!**