Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting
Full RTOC (held virtually)
December 1, 2022
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CST/8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. MST

WebEx Link for the Meeting
https://cherokeenation.webex.com/cherokeenation/j.php?MTID=m6c82e466913e74acff5f4153f0ba3b74

Meeting Summary

I. Opening – Tabitha Langston, Deputy Environmental Director, Tribal Co-Chair, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma called meeting to order.

II. Invocation - 1st Lt. Governor Virgil Lucero, Pueblo of Isleta

III. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum – Shawn Howard, Director, Transportation & Environment, RTOC Secretary, Citizen Potawatomi Nation

- 15 Participants, quorum declared
- Participant count 76 at 11:00 AM CST

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	**X**	**Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma**	**X**
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	**X**	**Wyandotte Nation**	**X**
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma	**X**	**Pueblo of Isleta**	**X**
Cherokee Nation	**X**	**Pueblo of Santa Ana**	**x**
Chickasaw Nation	**X**	**Pueblo of Santa Clara**	**X**
Citizen Potawatomi Nation	**X**	**Pueblo of San Felipe**	**X**
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	**X**	**Pueblo of Santo Domingo**	
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma	**X**	**Pueblo of Zia**	**x**
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma			

IV. Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chairs Dr. Earthea Nance, Regional Administrator, EPA Co-Chair & Chief Ethel Cook, Tribal Co-Chair, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, and Tribal Leaders

- Administrator Nance gave updates on the White House Tribal Nation's Summit, Regulation to Protect Tribal Reserved Rights for Water Quality Standards and BIL opportunities and funding.

V. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve Agenda as written by Muscogee Nation, seconded by Caddo Nation
- All in favor, none opposed, motion carries

VI. Approval of Minutes – July 14, 2022, RTOC Meeting

- Motion to approve Agenda as written by Pueblo of Isleta, seconded by Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
- All in favor, none opposed, motion carries

VII. Review of Action Items – July 14, 2022, RTOC Meeting

- EPA R6 to provide update on LANL Electrical Power Capacity Upgrade (EPCU) proposed new powerline upgrade

- EPA R6 to provide update on LANL Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS)
- EPA R6 to provide update on LANL tritium venting
- EPA R6 to describe permitting process of transuranic waste facility (Pueblo of San Felipe)
- EPA R6 to provide information on LANL radiation management program (Pueblo of Isleta)
- EPA respond to Sac and Fox Nation with updates of the Skull Creek oil spill.

VIII. New Business

a. RTOC Charter Signing
    - Tabitha Langston recognized Kathleen Welch, Wyandotte Nation, Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta, and Wayne Isaacs, Cherokee Nation for work on the new Charter.
    - Signed by Dr. Earthea Nance, Regional Administrator, EPA and Chief Ethel Cook, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, RTOC Co-Chairs.

b. Tribal Caucus Report Out

i. Welcome to Incoming 2023 RTOC Member Pueblos and Tribal Nations
    - Incoming Members are Sac and Fox Nation, Miami Tribe, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of Laguna

ii. RTOC Executive Committee Elections
    - Tribal Co-Chair, Tabitha Langston, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
    - Tribal Vice Chair, Ramona Montoya, Pueblo of Isleta
    - Secretary, Shawn Howard, Citizen Potawatomie Nation

iii. National Tribal Caucus Representative Elections
    - Representative 1: Pinu'u Stout, Pueblo of San Felipe
    - Representative 2: Tabitha Langston, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
    - Alternate: Greg Jojola, Pueblo of Laguna

c. AIEO Update- Felicia Wright, Acting Director, EPA American Indian Environmental Office
    - Discussed upcoming changes to the GAP Guidance and informational webinars
    - Discussed Tribal only competition for the Bi-partison Infrastructure Law (BIL), Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWFR), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
    - No GAP allocation changes this year. Changes will be considered in the future.

d. Tribal Consultation Update Regarding the Inflation Reduction Act, Pat Childers, EPA Office of Air and Radiation and Danny Gogal, EPA Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights
    - Pat Childers discussed the Inflation Reduction Act and the activities that Tribes can apply for on grants
    - Danny Gogal presented on opportunities in the Office of Environmental Justice

LUNCH 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. CST/11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. MST

X. EPA Division Report Updates: Gerardo Acosta, EPA R6 Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessments (OCTEA) facilitated discussions. Presentations will be provided by ITEC upon request.

a. Troy Hill, EPA R6 Water Division
    - Discussed the 319 Equity Consultation Process and proposed rule to protect

Tribal reserved rights.
- Will continue to monitor Skull Creek site for Sac and Fox Nation

b. Kim Ngo, EPA R6 Air and Radiation
- Discussed LANL moving forward
- Clean School Bus Program pushing outreach
- Tribal CAA 103 and 105 grant applications are open

c. Monica Smith, EPA R6 Land, Chemical, and Re-Development
- ENIPC Tribal Recycling Workshop March 28-29, 2023.
- National Brownfields Conference Detroit August 8-11, 2023.
- Modoc Tribe and United Keetoowah Bands received Solid Waste grants

d. Bryant Smalley, EPA R6 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
- Sanitary sewer overflows in Rio Rancho. EPA issued a proposed penalty order in Sept. Copy to Sandia Tribe. State of NM asked for consultation.
- Administrative Order issued to ABCWUA including order to fix issues
- Will continue to update Skull Creek site for Sac & Fox Nation

e. John Meyer, EPA R6 Superfund and Emergency Management
- Tar Creek Superfund Site awarded $1.2M in BIL funding for site remediation
- Wilcox Oil – remediation underway. Excavated 25 cubic yards of source materials at 8 tank locations
- BIL funding only used when there are no Potentially Responsible Parties identified
- Henryetta Iron work continues
- Skull Creek coordination with Sac and Fox Nation continues.

f. Geraldo Acosta/ Randy Gee, EPA R6 OCTEA
- 49 Tribal Partners received GAP and PPG Grant funding along with 2 Consortium
- GAP Guidance Training scheduled for December 6th and 8th 2022 virtually with EPA.
- Staff personnel updates were given

g. Chris Watkins, EPA R6 Mission Support – see EPA R6 Division Report on continuing appropriations

h. Dr. Sala Senkayi, EPA R6 Laboratory Services and Applied Science
- Thanked Tribes/Pueblos for saving paper by participating in online QA training and submitting QAPPs/QMPs electronically
- For FY 2023 tribes are asked to update QA documents for use with electronic signatures

X. New Business continued

e. Tribal Consultation Update Regarding the Clean Water Act (CWA) (§) 319 National Nonpoint Source Program, Steve Epting, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
- Comment period on NPS Equity memo open until December 23, 2022
- Base and competitive funding are available
- April 28, 2023 is the deadline for submission of CWA 319 TAS packages in order to be

eligible for funding next fiscal year.

f. Introduction to EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities Initiative, Audrey Ramming and Curt Baranowski, EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
    - Discussed Creating the Resilient Water Utilities Initiative

g. Review of the Tribal Waste Program Assessment Form, Roger Hancock, EPA Region 6 Land, Chemical and Redevelopment
    - Partnership with IHS to increase outreach efforts
    - Pueblo of San Felipe currently has a project underway

XI. Old Business- none

XII. Other Business

a. Dates of next meetings
    - April 24-26, 2023 in conjunction with EPA Summit in Dallas, Tx.
    - July 25-27, 2023 Tulsa, OK. Area (Possible Joint meeting with Region 8).
    - Fall meeting in New Mexico.

b. Workshop, Training & General Announcements
    - GAP applications deadline February 17, 2023
    - Tribal CAA 103 and 105 Air Proposals deadline February 28, 2023
    - Tribal CWA 106 applications deadline March 17, 2023
    - Tribal CWA 319 applications deadline April 21, 2023
    - PPG deadline April 21, 2023

XIII. Review of Action Items – Cherokee Nation
    - Discuss with AEIO the equal dissemination of info for Tribes and Pueblos for REO and SWFR under the BIL Program
    - Region 6 will share the funding assistance table being prepared for Dr. Nance on available BIL funding.
    - Share Pat Childers slides with interested participants.
    - EPA Region 6 will confirm the Summit dates for the week of April 24, 2023.

XIV. Closing Remarks – Regional Administrator and Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, Co-Chairs

XV. Benediction – Kathleen Welch, Wyandotte Nation

XVI. Adjournment - Tabitha Langston, Deputy Environmental Director, Tribal Co-Chair, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma