

FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager (NPM) Guidance

Early Engagement Plans



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OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OAR NPM Guidance

EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) plans to engage stakeholders early on in the development of its National Program Manager (NPM) Guidance. The purpose of the engagement is to gather input to inform the development of the draft FY 2018-2019 OAR NPM Guidance. As cross-agency issues are identified during the early engagement process, OAR will coordinate and share information with the appropriate office(s). In addition to the specific actions listed below, OAR continues ongoing and direct engagement with stakeholders on OAR’s regulations, policies, and priorities.

- **Letters to National Stakeholder Groups:** OAR will request general and targeted input to inform development of the NPM Guidance from stakeholder groups, including but not limited to:
 - Environmental Council of States (ECOS)
 - National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA)
 - Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA)
 - National Tribal Air Association (NTAA)
 - Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)
 - Other national and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate

Timeframe	Engagement Mechanism	Participants	Expected Output/Results	EPA Points of Contact
Sept - Nov 2016	Stakeholder Letters	ECOS, NACAA, AAPCA, NTAA, LGAC, other national and non-governmental organizations	Early input from states, tribes, and other stakeholder groups to inform development of the draft FY 2018-2019 OAR NPM Guidance.	Pat Childers (Tribal) Childers.pat@epa.gov (202) 564-1082 Margaret Walters walters.margaret@epa.gov (202) 564-4107

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OCSPP NPM Guidance

The Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) and the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) communicate regularly with states and tribes to better understand local, regional, and national toxics, pesticide, and pollution prevention issues and priorities and plan as co-regulators. In addition, below are specific planned opportunities to engage states and tribes in the FY 2018-2019 OCSPP NPM guidance development process.

Date	Engagement	Status
May 4, 2016	Send e-mail to AAPCO/SFIREG and Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC) leadership requesting their attendance at the June 14, 2016 OPP/OECA National Pesticide Meeting to discuss the FY 2018-2019 NPM guidance with OPP, OECA and the regional pesticide program managers.	Completed
June 14	Listen to state and tribal representatives discuss their priorities at the OPP/OECA National Pesticides Meeting in Crystal City, VA, and consider their focus areas during discussion with the regions on potential FY 2018-2019 pesticide NPM priorities.	Completed
June 21	Listen to tribal members discuss their priorities at the National TPPC Meeting in Flagstaff, AZ, and discuss potential FY 2018-2019 national pesticide priorities with tribal representatives.	Planned
June 22	OPPT - Discuss the opportunity for discussing priorities for FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance with NTTC leadership.	Completed
June/July	OPPT- Send e-mail to state call participants to request their input on the FY 2018-2019 NPM guidance during the July 27 th quarterly call.	Tentative
July 19	OPPT- Discuss with tribal representatives FY 2018-2019 NPMG and priorities on the monthly call with the NTTC leadership.	Planned
Aug 16	OPPT- Continue discussion with tribal representatives FY 2018-2019 NPMG and priorities on the monthly call with the NTTC leadership.	Planned
July 27	OPPT- Discuss draft FY 2018-2019 NPM guidance during the Chemicals Safety & State-based Groups Quarterly Coordination Call.	Tentative
Oct 4-5	Discuss draft FY 2018-2019 national pesticide priorities at National TPPC Meeting in Pauma Valley, CA.	Planned
Oct/Nov	Discuss draft FY 2018-2019 national pesticide priorities at regional pre-SFIREG meetings with states and tribes. Regions will gather state and tribal feedback and provide this information to OPP.	Planned
Mid-Nov	Share draft FY 2018-2019 NPM guidance language with states and tribes.	Planned
Dec 8-9	Discuss draft FY 2018-2019 NPM guidance language at National SFIREG Meeting in Crystal City, VA. States will provide final feedback on the draft language.	Planned
Dec 9-11	Discuss NPM guidance language at the OPP/OECA National Pesticide Managers Video Conference. Resolve issues with the regions related to the final draft of the FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance. SFIREG and TPPC representatives will also participate in these discussions and provide final input on draft priorities.	Planned

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OECA NPM Guidance

This is the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance’s (OECA’s) plan for early engagement with states and tribes prior to developing the FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager (NPM) Guidance in collaboration with the EPA regions. The Office of Compliance (OC) will request assistance from EPA regions in soliciting early input directly from states and tribes for OECA’s FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance. On behalf of OECA, OC will also request early input from associations.

Date	Engagement Milestone for OC/OECA	Participants	Expected Output/Results
June - July 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal coordination with lead region on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposed approach for early engagement with states and tribes. 	Lead Region, OECA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on approach
July 26 – August 5, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECA Regional Offices request early input from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State lead agencies; and ○ Regional tribes and tribal operations committees (RTOCs). 	Regions use standard letter provided by OECA to promote consistency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to the questions posed in OECA’s background document. • Any other early input which states, tribes and associations would like to provide prior to development of FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECA HQ requests early input from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Headquarters Program Offices; ○ Regional Offices; ○ NGOs: e.g. ECOS Compliance Committee, NASDA, AAPCO, ASTSWMO, ASDWA, ACWA, NACAA, AAPCA, SFIREG; and ○ National Tribal Caucus, Tribal representatives on the National Tribal Operations Committee. <p><i>(separate email requests)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECA • EPA Program Offices • Regions • ECOS, NASDA, AAPO, ASTSWMO, ASDWA, ACWA, NACAA, AAPCA, SFIREG • National Tribal Water Council Tribal, Pesticide Program Council, National Tribal Air Association and Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program Steering Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordination with program offices on approach for early engagement with media specific tribal partnership groups. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind OECA offices to collaborate with other NPMs (as needed) 	OECA	

Date	Engagement Milestone for OC/OECA	Participants	Expected Output/Results
August 2016	EPA (via OCFO) sends letters to federally recognized tribes requesting early input	OECA will request OCFO assistance in soliciting early input on specific questions posed in OECA’s background document (attached).	
September 02, 2016	<p>Deadline for states, tribes, and associations to submit early input for OECA’s FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance.</p> <p><i>Note: It is critical to receive early input in a timely manner in order to consider it in the development of the FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance. Following receipt of early input, OC/OECA will compile and summarize the early input from states, tribes and associations and distribute it to the OECA divisions/offices and regional colleagues for their consideration and discussion prior to developing the FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance.</i></p>		
December 30, 2016	<p>By December 30th, OECA will summarize in writing: (1) the early engagement process used and (2) the early input received from states, tribes and associations, including feedback on the most important areas of work. OCFO intends to share the summary document with states/tribes to inform NPM Guidance development. If states and/or tribes raise any cross-program topics during the early engagement process, the December 30th summary will identify those cross-program topics as well. The December 30th deadline is EPA-wide.</p>		

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OITA Guidance

The American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO), within the Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA), leads and coordinates the Agency-wide effort to strengthen public health and environmental protection in Indian country, promotes consultation on a government-to-government basis, and is committed to engaging early with tribes and states on the development of the OITA FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager Guidance (NPMG).

In general, OITA receives continual tribal government input on environmental priorities throughout the year. This interaction occurs through established mechanisms such as meetings with the National Tribal Caucus (NTC) and other EPA tribal partnership groups, meetings with tribal leaders and tribal environmental professionals, and attendance and discussion with tribal leaders and staff at meetings and conferences. Through these mechanisms OITA gains information on tribal environmental priorities in the context of OITA’s programs and actions.

In addition to these ongoing mechanisms, OITA will seek input through several specific early engagement mechanisms as listed below. OITA has developed a new partnership with the NTC and the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) on tribal issues. For the first time, AIEO will early engage with ECOs on NPMG priority development.

Key Early Engagement Dates

Timeframe	Mechanism	Participants	Purpose and Expected Results
July 2016	Written requests	National Tribal Caucus (NTC)	Solicit input from NTC on early engagement mechanisms to use with tribes.
July-November	Existing meetings	NTC, EPA Tribal Partnership Groups, and Tribes	Solicit input on tribal priority issues through existing NTC conference calls, ongoing engagement with other EPA tribal partnership groups, and discussion with tribal leaders and staff at meetings and conferences.
October	National Conference Call	Tribes	Discussion and comment regarding proposed NPMG priorities.
October	Conference Call	ECOS	Discussion and comment regarding proposed NPMG priorities.
November	Written Summary	EPA	Summarize comments on proposed NPMG priorities.
January 2017	Draft NPMG	EPA	Incorporate input into draft NPMG.

OFFICE OF LAND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OLEM NPM Guidance

Participants in the Early Engagement Process:

OLEM (immediate office and program offices), EPA lead regions for RCRA & Superfund, states (Environmental Council of the States, Association of State and Territorial Waste Management Officials and state program implementers), tribes (National Tribal Caucus, Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program Steering Committee and tribal co-regulators) and locals (Local Government Advisory Committee, National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals and local governmental leaders).

Process:

OLEM's Assistant Administrator will initiate early engagement with our partners by notifying states, tribes, local government partners of OLEM's approach to discussing priorities for FYs 2018-2019. Within these email communications, OLEM will briefly describe the process by which it will seek input from its partners and include a list of meetings when priorities will be discussed. The communication also will highlight OLEM's National Areas of Focus for FY 2016 and FY 2017 as the basis for priority work in FY 2018 and beyond.

During the early engagement period, OLEM program offices will hold in person meetings and conference calls with state and tribal partners to discuss priorities and other important issues. OLEM also will hold a national conference call with federally-recognized tribes related to OLEM program and partner priorities. Additionally, we have set up the email address, NPMOLEM@epa.gov, for partners to share their thoughts for priorities and/or issues of concern. At the end of the early engagement period, OLEM will post a summary of the process used for engaging its partners and priorities identified to the agency's National Program Manager Guidance internet site.

Timeline:

Late July through Early August 2016

OLEM initiates early engagement process by notifying states, tribes and locals about opportunities to discuss FY 2018-2019 priorities with OLEM program offices and lead regions.

- EPA lead regions for Superfund and RCRA share information about early engagement opportunities with regional management for their use and dissemination.

July through Early November

- OLEM program offices and lead regions hold program-specific discussions with state and tribal partners to identify priorities.
- OLEM coordinates with other NPMs to consider cross-program areas.

September - OLEM holds conference call with tribes to discuss Superfund, RCRA and other OLEM program priorities.

November - December - OLEM considers FY 2018 – 2019 priorities.

December - OLEM reports process used for early engagement and priorities identified.

OFFICE OF WATER

Opportunities to Inform Development of FY 2018-2019 OW NPM Guidance

The Office of Water (OW) is committed to engage with states and tribes early in the development of the FY 2018-2019 National Water Program Guidance (NWPG). OW’s purpose of early engagement is to ensure that water priorities and strategies reflect the most effective use of resources to achieving EPA’s goal of protecting human health and improving water quality on a watershed basis.

In order to run the early engagement process efficiently and minimize the burden to states and tribes, the Office of Water will:

- Deliver letters of requests to solicit general and targeted input from our external stakeholders
- Engage in discussion with external stakeholders during existing meetings
- Update shared priorities to inform the development of the National Water Program Guidance
- Coordinate with other NPMs in soliciting input for cross-cutting issues (e.g. water enforcement)

Key Milestones

Timeframe	Mechanism	Participants*	Purpose and Expected Results
July 2016	Written requests	ACWA, ASDWA, ASWM, ECOS, GWPC, NTWC, states, tribes, and EPA	Send out written requests to solicit input from states and tribes. The letters will provide context and purpose to the requests
August – October	Existing meetings	ACWA, ASDWA, ASWM, ECOS, GWPC, NTWC, states, tribes, and EPA	Discussions with state and tribal associations during existing meetings if appropriate.
September	Written comments	ACWA, ASDWA, ASWM, ECOS, GWPC, NTWC, states, tribes, and EPA	Early input from States, Tribes, and National Organizations to inform development of the draft FY 2018-2019 National Water Program Guidance.
October	Written summary	EPA	Summarize comments from states and tribes with the purpose of taking them into consideration updating our National Water Program Guidance
November	Written summary	EPA and commenters	Communicate the summary of shared priorities with states and tribes
December 2016	Draft NWPG	EPA water subobjective leads and regions	Incorporate state and tribal early input into the first NWPG draft.

*Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA), Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA), Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM), Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC), National Tribal Water Council (NTWC).