



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 07 2015

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Release of the Final Tribal Waste Management Program Sustainability Evaluation Tool

FROM: Barnes Johnson, Director *K. Salas*
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

TO: RCRA Directors, Regions I - X

The Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery is pleased to announce the release of the Tribal Waste Management Program Sustainability Evaluation Tool (the Tool). This Tool will be located on OSWER's Cleaning Up, Protecting and Preserving Tribal Lands webpage for use by all the EPA regions, tribes, and other federal agencies.

The Tool was originally developed and refined by EPA Regions 5 and 8. Over the past several years, the EPA regional offices have been using a draft version of the Tool to assist the tribes with evaluating their tribal waste management programs. The regional offices have found the Tool to be a useful assessment mechanism. The Tool is used to evaluate how a tribal waste management program is currently operating and to identify specific areas where additional support is needed in developing a sustainable tribal waste management program. The Tool consists of a spreadsheet which addresses seven key indicators that are representative of a sustainable tribal waste management program. These key indicators are: planning, financial viability, management, staffing, operations, coordination, and compliance and enforcement.

We anticipate that the EPA regions will continue to use the Tool as part of their technical assistance activities with the tribes. Please contact Michaelle Wilson, Chief of the Federal, State and Tribal Programs Branch at wilson.michaelle@epa.gov or (703) 308-8790, should your staff have questions regarding the Tool.