

2020 EJPCS Project Summaries

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has selected 18 organizations to each receive up to \$120,000 through the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program (EJCPS). The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, and academia) as they develop and implement solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities. The term “underserved community” refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including minority, low income, rural, tribal, and indigenous populations. Awarded projects must demonstrate use of the [Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model](#) to support their collaborative efforts during the project period. The long-term goals of the EJCPS Program are to help build the capacity of communities with environmental justice concerns and to create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local environments in the future.

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Region 1

1)

Recipient: Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *New Voices at the Water Table: Leadership Development for Olneyville Youth and Residents to Shape Infrastructure, Flood and Resiliency Planning*

Project Location: Providence, RI

Project Partners: Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) (government), Providence Mayor’s Office, Office of Sustainability and Racial and Environmental Justice Committee (government), Providence City Council (government), Brown University (academic), Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center (The Met) (academic), Providence After School Alliance (PASA) (academic), Rhode Island Green Infrastructure Coalition (GIC) (statewide collaboration), One Neighborhood Builders (ONE NB) (community development corporation), Olneyville Health Equity Zone (HEZ) (improvement collaboration), Olneyville Collaborative (business/nonprofit/resident collaboration), Valley Visioning Group (development collaboration), United Way of RI (UWRI) (funder/non-profit clearinghouse), Door of the Refuge Church (faith center)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Youth Development, Environmental Job Training, and Stormwater Issues

Project Description:

The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) project will create a model for engagement, capacity and leadership promotion in vulnerable, underserved neighborhoods in Providence, RI, for the purposes of planning and advocacy around stormwater, flooding, resiliency and sea level rise by those who will be most impacted. This project will focus on the low-income community of Olneyville, a neighborhood greatly impacted by flooding events. This project will empower and develop partnerships between approximately 25 local youth in WRWC's Environmental Leaders program and a cohort of 15 new resident leaders through the following innovative approach: Step 1: project kick-off includes The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond's Undoing Racism workshop to build trust among constituents and partners; Step 2: resident leaders will mentor young people from Providence's Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center school to collaboratively develop problem-solving projects focused on community-based resiliency; Step 3: the cohort and the students will meet with Providence's Mayor and Director of Sustainability to present their project plans and ideas and; Step 4: with partner support, youth-led collaborative problem-solving resiliency projects will be implemented in the Olneyville community. This innovative program will give youth the opportunity to explore environmental concepts and become true change makers in the community. Youth will participate in a year-long course centered around a "Learn One, Research One, Teach One" model, where each stage builds onto the next. The participants will use their interests, ingenuity, and experiences to investigate environmental issues on both a local and global scale, and then develop that research into a community-based project.

2)

Recipient: Childhood Lead Action Project

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Community Lead Safety Collaborative Project*

Project Location: Providence, RI

Project Partners: 1) RI Department of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (state government agency), 2) City of Providence – Office of Sustainability, Housing Code Enforcement & Planning Department (local government w/ enforcement, educational, lead abatement funding resources); 3) Housing Works RI at Roger Williams University (nonprofit/academic); 4) RI Center for Justice (service provider)

Environmental Statute(s): Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)

Project Type: Lead Awareness and Healthy Homes

Project Description:

Childhood Lead Action Project's Community Lead Safety Collaborative Project works strategically in Providence, RI to reduce the incidence of childhood lead poisoning, improve the safety of rental housing and increase the capacity of residents, government regulators, housing funding agencies, and other stakeholders to work together to address the lead issue on a local level. Providence has a high incidence of lead poisoning and are home to substantial low-income/minority populations. The project is grounded in effective lead prevention practices and the EPA Collaborative Problem Solving model for change, including meaningful involvement and direction provided by local community members already engaged in leadership roles and a multi-stakeholder group with previously established relationships, trust, mutual goals, and responsibilities. Childhood Lead Action Project will: 1) meet quarterly with CPS stakeholder group including community members, housing code enforcement officials, to coordinate lead poisoning prevention activities and implement plan to ID and address 100+ cases of rental properties that have never complied with lead safety laws, 2) strengthen community leadership on lead poisoning prevention and participation in decision-making and community education, and 3) raise awareness among parents, tenants, homeowners, and other community members at risk for lead poisoning by carrying out linguistically and culturally appropriate education and outreach.

Region 2

1)

Recipient: The HOPE Program, Inc.

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Air Pollution Mitigation through Rooftop Coating and Transitional Employment*

Project Location: South Bronx, NY

Project Partners: New York City Department of Small Business Services (local government), Paul Lipson (community and business leader), SoBRO (community-based not-for-profit economic development organization), Hon. Rafael Salamanca, Jr. (elected official), Rocking the Boat (community-based not-for-profit organization), BronXchange (local economic development organization), Mayor's Office of Resiliency (local government), THE POINT CDC (local community development organization), Representative Nydia M. Velazquez (elected official)

Environmental Statue(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)

Project Type: Environmental Job Training

Project Description:

This project will build upon HOPE's existing implementation of the NYC CoolRoofs program, which provides a training and transitional employment opportunity with supportive career services for 70 New Yorkers annually across two cohorts, while simultaneously reducing emissions of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter by painting rooftops with a reflective coating that improves buildings' energy efficiency. The project will allow us to coat an additional 100,000 square feet of rooftops on industrial buildings in the South Bronx, an area facing a particularly heavy environmental burden, and to expand

our community engagement by hosting community-based organizations, leaders, and residents at our work sites. By engaging job training participants in this paid transitional work opportunity, this proposal ensures that those most impacted by the environmental injustice earn wages and develop skills while serving as part of the solution. Further, this will serve as a demonstration project to engage industrial buildings in the CoolRoofs program at the subsidized cost offered by the city.

2)

Recipient: Coopers Ferry Partnership

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Leading with Lead*

Project Location: Camden, NJ

Project Partners: City of Camden (Local Government); St. Joseph's Carpenter Society (Nonprofit); Camden Collaborative Initiative (Nonprofit); American Water (Private); Hispanic Family Center (Nonprofit); Camden City Residents (Public)

Environmental Statute(s): Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3); Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3); Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Lead Mitigation and Safe Water Project

Project Description:

Among the many environmental problems disproportionately affecting the residents in the Camden, NJ, its older housing stock and industrial heritage leaves residents susceptible to lead exposure in paint, soils, and indoor plumbing. The project will assess current homeowners' homes to ensure that they are safe from lead paint, lead in water, accessibility and/or asthma/mold dangers. This Project will minimize lead exposure risk through community education, water testing, and water filter distribution (at least 250 filters). Additionally, through a robust and resident-driven community education campaign, the project will help rebuild trust in the municipal water system, thereby decreasing residents' reliance on bottle water and its financial burden and reducing plastics in the adjoining waterways. Finally, the project will improve targeted open spaces by ensuring that those public spaces are greener and are remediated for lead dust dangers through tree plantings and lead dust abatement. Project activities include: Installing lead water filters in 250 homes, greening of 5 vacant lots, planting 25 trees, and outreach to 5,000 community residents via community events.

Region 3

1)

Recipient: City Blossoms

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Engaging the Community at the Farm at Kelly Mille*

Project Location: Washington, DC

Project Partners: Dreaming Out Loud, the District of Columbia's Department of Parks and Recreation, Kelly Miller Middle School, and Loop Closing.

Environmental Statue(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Urban Agriculture and Youth Development

Project Description:

The Farm at Kelly Miller is an interactive urban farm and garden that has been created in partnership with Dreaming Out Loud, the DC Department of Recreation (DPR), Loop Closing, and Kelly Miller Middle School in Washington, DC's Ward 7, a systemically under-resourced section of the city. The goal of this project is to provide a safe, educational, and multi-purpose green space that combats water pollution and provides environmental education that emphasizes stewardship. City Blossoms requests funding to expand the farm and to grow the programming offered at the Farm at Kelly Miller. With the support of the EPA, the 2020-2022 goals of the Farm at Kelly Miller are as follows: 1) to engage 150 individual children annually 2) to provide Field Trips to 500 individual children from 20 surrounding schools 3) to host three large community events that engage 150 individuals, and installing a hoop house that will support teaching and training opportunities through a shaded outdoor classroom environment.

2)

Recipient: Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Eastern Shore Water Quality Improvement Project*

Project Location: Virginia's Eastern Shore

Project Partners: Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (Government); Chesapeake Bay Funders Network (Non-profit); Eastern Shore Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency (Non-profit); National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) (Non-Profit) Virginia Tech (Academic); Northampton County (Government); Accomack County (Government) New Road Community Development Group of Exmore, Inc (Non-profit)

Environmental Statute(s): Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3); Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Water Sampling and Testing for Private Wells and Septic Systems

Project Description:

The objective of the Eastern Shore Water Quality Improvement Project is to improve the potable water quality, living conditions and overall health of residents in Virginia's Eastern Shore who rely on domestic water wells and septic systems. The Eastern Shore needs funding because of its rural location, low-income status, aging housing stock, and shallow well systems which are prone to becoming contaminated from failed septic systems. SERCAP's project will target unincorporated residential properties that have contaminated well water, failing septic systems and homes in need of repair. SERCAP and its partners will assist in addressing these problems through education, environmental media testing, and financing programs that either SERCAP manages or other agencies provide. Two public information sessions, and eight clinics will be offered on the operation and maintenance of domestic wells and septic systems, home rehabilitation and common environmental health hazards. SERCAP will teach residents how to take samples for water quality testing or provide them with trained staff to take samples. SERCAP and its partners will test these samples as well as samples from nearby streams for contaminants that could lead to health complications. SERCAP will then hold six follow up community meetings and work with residents to determine options to ensure healthy homes with a goal of having 200 impacted households attending meetings.

Region 4

1)

Recipient: National Coalition of 100 Black Women - Central Florida Chapter

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Helping Low-Income Families Identify & Address Hazardous Air Pollutants that Impact Health*

Project Location: Orlando, FL

Project Partners: Community Empowerment Partnership, Inc (CEP-community organization), Save the Wekiva River and Headwaters, Inc. (SWH-environmental non-profit), Bruce Antone (state government), Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida (UUJF-faith), and University of Central Florida Air Quality Faculty (UCF-academia)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)

Project Type: Air Quality impacts on Respiratory Disease

Project Description:

The main objective of the proposed project is to mitigate the negative health impacts of air pollution. It will promote Citizen Science and open dialogue and information sharing regarding air quality; with the goal of promoting a healthy environment. Activities will include: surveying regarding prevalence of asthma and symptoms of respiratory disease, monitoring temperature, humidity, and levels of PM2.5 ,PM10 , NO2 , O3 , CO, SO2 , NMHC, and VOC, mapping outdoor air quality and traffic volume, and providing education and outreach to empower residents not only to make personal decisions that will reduce the severity of asthma, the prevalence of symptoms of respiratory disease, and the exposure to air pollution in three low income historic African American communities, but also to promote civic engagement. Outputs will include 2 survey reports, maps of traffic count and air quality monitoring results, public health outreach and education, and an inexpensive indoor air quality monitor lending library. Outcomes include informed citizens, reduced exposure to air pollution and lower prevalence of asthma and symptoms of respiratory disease.

2)

Recipient: Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians,

Applicant Type: Tribal Government

Project Title: *Waste Characterization and Outreach in Selected Choctaw Communities*

Project Location: Choctaw Tribal Lands in Mississippi

Project Partners: MBCI Tribal Leadership (tribal government), MBCI Department of Public Works (tribal government agency), MBCI Office of Environmental Protection (tribal government agency), MBCI Recycling Center (tribal government agency), Choctaw Wildlife and Parks (CWP) (tribal government agency), MBCI Office of the Attorney General (tribal government), MBCI Community Development Clubs (tribal community organizations), MBCI Day Labor Program (tribal executive agency), Choctaw Tribal School System (academia), EPA (US Federal Government), Environmental Waste Collection(industry), Q-Star Technologies, LLC (private business enterprise), E3 Environmental (private business enterprise)

Environmental Statue(s): Solid Waste Disposal Act 42 USC §8001(a)

Project Type: Illegal Dumping and Job Training

Project Description:

Illegal dump sites are a significant and prevalent issue that disproportionately affects tribes due to the rural nature of tribal lands, and the inability to prosecute non-tribal violators. Dump sites (which include forested areas, dead end roads and stream crossings) plague Choctaw communities. Choctaw Recycling Center, which handles more waste than recyclables, is inundated with the amount of rubbish that comes in daily. The site is poorly located and ill-equipped to process such a large volume of waste. A new site has been selected and the MBCI tribal administration has budgeted for the relocation and expansion of CRC. This Project seeks to hire individuals from the MBCI Day Labor Program to characterize the waste which is being dumped illegally and use this information for planning so that the new CRC has the capacity to meet the needs of the community. OEP would also host household hazardous waste collection days to ensure more waste is properly disposed. Signage and cameras specifically designed for

surveillance at illegal dump sites will be purchased with the Project funds to deter future dumping at these sites. Monitoring and enforcement of these cameras will be the responsibility of the CWP. CWP, OEP and the MBCI Office of the Attorney General will collaborate to strengthen the MBCI's Environmental Code to make enforcement more effective.

Region 5

1)

Recipient: Youthprise

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Northside Safety N.E.T.*

Project Location: North Minneapolis, MN

Project Partners: Project Sweetie Pie (NGO community-based organization), City of Minneapolis (local government), MetroBlooms (NGO industry), Conservation Corps (quasi-governmental), TreeTrust (NGO industry), Growing North Minneapolis (collective-education and advocacy), Pillsbury United Communities (NGO community development)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3); Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3); and Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)

Project Type: Youth Development and Environmental Job Training

Project Description:

The Northside Safety-N.E.T. (Neighborhoods Empowering Teens) is a collaborative and systems-change approach to addressing disparate environmental impacts and empowering at-risk teens of color in North Minneapolis. The partners in this collaborative will leverage their existing resources and expertise to develop and implement training for a cohort of youth (ages 16-24), around participatory action research, civic engagement from an environmental justice lens, community service, environmental stewardship, leadership, life skills training and workforce development. The main objectives are to: 1) Authentically integrate young people in local conversation and movement to address environmental justice issues identified by the Northside Green Zone task force; 2) Raise the environmental literacy and practical skills of young people to create a new generation of environmental stewards; 3) Increase exposure and interest in careers related to the environment, sustainability and green enterprises. Activities for youth include, training on sustainable landscaping and stormwater best management practices (MetroBlooms); instruction of government operations, regulations and enforcement through an environmental and racial justice lens (City of Minneapolis and environmental justice leaders); garden maintenance, crop planting and harvesting (Project Sweetie Pie); tree planting, pruning and maintenance (TreeTrust); exposure to green careers in renewable energy and energy efficiency (City of Minneapolis, with partners); career readiness and networking opportunities; and financial literacy training and entrepreneurship workshops.

2)

Recipient: Working In Neighborhoods

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Partners for Better Watershed Management*

Project Location: Cincinnati, OH

Project Partners: Communities United For Action (community organization); Hamilton County Landbank (local government); University of Cincinnati (academic); Green Umbrella (community organization)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Green Infrastructure and Watershed Planning

Project Description:

The main objective of Partners for Better Watershed Management will be to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan to reduce storm water runoff entering our combined sewer system and polluting our waterways. We will conduct door-to-door outreach, hold demonstration and educational workshops, and bring together stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan to mitigate runoff in Mill Creek valley neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by water pollution. The outreach will educate 175 residents about the impacts of storm water runoff and possible solutions for remediating runoff and preventing storm water from entering Greater Cincinnati's combined sewer system. WIN and our partners will convene public meetings that include colleges/universities, government agencies, community groups, churches, and affected residents of the target neighborhoods to develop a storm water remediation plan for the community. At least 50 people (a mix of residents and partner organizations) will work on a remediation plan. In addition, using donations, 25 homeowners will install green infrastructure to prevent storm water from flooding at their homes and overwhelming sewers. This project will protect public health by keeping sewage and pollution out of water ways and preventing sewer backups in homes in the Mill Creek Watershed.

Region 6

1)

Recipient: Teaching Responsible Earth Education

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Lost Treasures - Environmental Education Pilot Program*

Project Location: New Orleans, LA

Project Partners: International School of Louisiana, Lost treasures curriculum authors, and private landowner

Environmental Statue(s): Clean Air Act, section 103(b)(3); Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3); Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a); Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001(a)

Project Type: Environmental Education and Youth Development

Project Description:

Lost Treasures is a school-based, science education program for elementary students to be piloted by T.R.E.E. Through this project, up to 300 third grade students attending the International School of Louisiana, 60% of which are minority and/or economically disadvantaged, will benefit from alternative methods of science education by become environmentally literate citizens. Students will improve academically and will grow to understand their ability to affect positive change in their environments. The main objective of the project is to establish an empowering, school curriculum-integrated environmental education program for younger students propelling their awareness of environmental problems and the injustices they create. Through this immersive learning experience, children become characters in their own story where they receive proclamations to challenge themselves and work together discovering different elements of the environment. Students will learn about the Animal, Mineral and Plant Kingdoms and how they interact and depend on ecosystems. The second part of the program is currently under development and focuses on the different types of ecosystems and delves into the laws of nature regarding the movement of light, water, wind and soil. There will be a total of 50 visits over a 16-week period for students to experience this immersive outdoor learning experience.

2)

Recipient: Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corporation

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Water Quality Monitoring and Education in New Orleans East through a Community-based Citizen Science Program*

Project Location: New Orleans, LA

Project Partners: Tulane University (academic); VEGGI Farmers' Cooperative (community-based workforce development program), St. Thomas CCD (local school), Village de l'Est Improvement Association (local neighborhood association)

Environmental Statue(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) and Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)

Project Type: Water Monitoring and Citizen Science

Project Description:

The project will focus on poor water quality concerns of the New Orleans East community with an emphasis on the Village de l'Est neighborhood due to the high concentration of urban agriculture in the

neighborhood. Our project will improve the water quality and guide community members in capacity building around watershed management, conservation efforts and citizen science efforts. The community is facing water pollution issues such as fecal contamination, high nutrient loads, and potential exposure to metals such as arsenic from soil historically contaminated with past arsenical pesticides use. We plan to engage community members in the process of scientific inquiry, synthesis, watershed management and data interpretation through a community-based citizen science program. Water samples will be collected using the standard methods and consumables along a defined transect moving from either side of the Chef Menteur Emergency Landfill/Waste-site. Water samples will be collected weekly by graduate/undergraduate students from Tulane and citizen science members.

Region 7

1)

Recipient: Heartland Conservation Alliance

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *Action for a Healthy Blue River Watershed: Heart of the City Assessment and Restoration*

Project Location: Kansas City, MO

Project Partners: Center for Neighborhoods, University of Missouri - Kansas City (academic); Kansas City Neighborhoods and Housing Services (local government); Missouri Department of Conservation (state government); Open Table (local nonprofit)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3)

Project Type: Environmental Job Training and Community Planning

Project Description:

Heartland Conservation Alliance and partners seek to work with underserved community residents of Kansas City who experience extreme poverty and disproportionate environmental health impacts of an unhealthy and polluted watershed, exacerbated by a high percentage of blighted properties. Health is impacted by illegal dumping, proximity to wastewater discharge, proximity to an impaired stream, proximity to hazardous waste and exposure to poor air quality. We will convene community members to design a re-use plan for 40 acres of vacant and forested land, thus increasing residents' access to multiple benefits of green infrastructure. Project activities include: 1) prioritization and consensus on health issue focus, 2) development of re-use plan for vacant land, 3) outreach and education for residents, 4) stewardship and land restoration workshops; 5) creating two technical advisory groups to lead vision and carry out implementation of re-use plan, 6) creating a Community Forest Program in Kansas City; and 7) promoting pilot project to all neighborhoods in Kansas City. To provide information and education to the community about environmental issues throughout the two years, HCA will lead two cohorts of Green Guard Stewardship Training with a goal of graduating 20 stewards. These hands-on learning sessions will be designed in coordination with the TAG and will offer a series of 3-5 workshops to introduce residents to topics they will need to understand to create a re-use plan and to

build an implementation plan. Topics have included effective community event organizing; understanding a watershed and stormwater management, plant identification and managing for invasive species, understanding urban forests and tree keeping. These workshops also introduce community members to natural resources in their community and build awareness through service learning.

2)

Recipient: Beyond Housing

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Project Title: *24:1 Clear the Air*

Project Location: St. Louis, MO

Project Partners: Missouri Department of Conservation (state government); Forest ReLeaf of Missouri (nonprofit); Normandy Schools Collaborative (K-12 education); East-West Gateway Council of Governments (federally designated metropolitan planning organization); 24:1 Community Tree Boards (local governmental agencies & elected officials)

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)

Project Type: Green Infrastructure Training and Outreach

Project Description:

The objective of the 24:1 Clear the Air project is to educate municipal leadership and the general community about the link between air quality, the urban tree canopy, and asthma. The 24:1 Community is comprised of low-income, minority-majority municipalities in North St. Louis County (Missouri). A canopy assessment will be conducted to inform the community about opportunities for tree canopy improvements. Education will explain the benefits of trees in cleaning the air and how asthma is related to air quality. Workshops will teach tree selection and care to empower residents to help with canopy improvements - at least five workshop series will be provided with the goal of engaging 20 residents per workshop. Outreach to the community will be conducted by teen and young adult interns from backgrounds underrepresented in forestry - training will empower the interns and volunteers to have conversations with community members as they conduct a massive canvassing campaign designed to reach 1,500 homes with flyers and door hangers and converse with at least 750 residents in person. The Community Forester/Project Manager will provide technical assistance to municipal tree boards to create region-wide plans to address issues identified through the canopy assessment.

Region 8

1)

Recipient: Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Applicant Type: Tribal Government

Project Title: *Creating Partnerships to Develop Sound Regulation and Training Program for Tribal Emergency Response and effected local Tribal Communities of the Lake Oahe Reservoir*

Project Location: Fort Yates, ND

Project Partners: North Dakota Emergency Services, Chief Oilfield Services, LLC; North Dakota Environmental Quality; Standing Rock Dept. of Environmental Regulations

Environmental Statue(s): Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) and Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)

Project Type: Emergency Planning for Oil Spills

Project Description:

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Nation is located on the border of North and South Dakota. The tribe is facing a pressing environmental issue, the building of the Dakota Access Pipeline under Lake Oahe, the reservoir basin created from the flooding of the Missouri River. Multiple partners are committed to provide preparation and training on emergency preparedness for potential pipeline spills and leaks. Heartland Consulting is also previously committed to assist in Tribal plan development and improvement. Sitting Bull College partners with the Tribe in a variety of areas, including education, internships, partnerships for air quality projects and produces laboratory results for water quality testing. The key driving community concern of this project is the fear of a break in the pipeline. This proposal will enable collaborative efforts of the Tribe and its partners to bring into each of the Local Districts skill and leadership development, along with specialized training in risk awareness and oil spill hazards. Response training will be provided to community leaders that each Local District identifies. As the community identifies the risk, they can provide better informed decisions to the developed community Plans of Action this proposal envisions for our effected communities.

Region 9

1)

Recipient: The Navajo Nation

Applicant Type: Tribal Government

Project Title: *Building Capacity to Address Community and Environmental Health, Housing and Job Training/Workforce Development Impacts Resulting from Operation and Closure of NFPI Facility in Navajo, NM*

Project Location: Navajo Nation, NM

Project Partners: Red Lake Chapter (local tribal government), Nations Gas (local business), Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development (federal tribal government), Navajo Townsite Community Development Corporation (local economic community development corporation), the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (educational institutional), Dine' College and Stantec

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3), Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) and Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)

Project Type: Community Planning and Job Training

Project Description:

The closure of the Navajo Forest Products Industry (NFPI) sawmill and particle board fabrication plant 25 years ago left a 100-acre abandoned, contaminated property, and a facility that was never properly decommissioned or replaced. Soil and groundwater contain dangerously high levels of asbestos, formaldehyde and volatile organic compounds that threaten health and safety of the surrounding community. The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency's (NNEPA) main objective is to provide protection for the health of residents while advocating for the property to be used as an asset for community revitalization. One of several outcomes include an increase in the number of residents that know about health effects triggered by airborne contaminants. Activities include written operating procedures for the NFPI Community Advisory Group, written training curriculum and expected learning objectives for each education/training session. Further outcomes will be an increase in the number of residents that install and routinely check affected areas and/or home air monitors which will include written survey results from community residents re: existing health effects, procedures for the performance of air/environmental monitoring, health assessment report for exposure to NFPI contaminants, and recommended procedures that can be used by community members to reduce potential exposure/health effects. Written recommendations on ideas for NFPI site reuse including building designs and creation of a Workforce Development and Job Training Center will also be developed.

Region 10

1)

Recipient: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Applicant Type: Tribal Government

Project Title: *Development of a Community Action Plan Employing Clean Energy Technology*

Project Location: Fort Hall, ID

Project Partners: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Air Quality Program, Momentum Civil and Environmental Engineering (Tribal Consultant), Buffalo Lodge District Representative

Environmental Statute(s): Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)

Project Type: Community Resiliency and Air Quality

Project Description:

The Energy Resources Program is a Tribal Program within the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (SBT) Tribal Department of Energy and represents the Tribes interest and activities on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. The project proposal leverages a community, Tribal, and industry collaboration to develop a community action plan (CAP) to mitigate air quality and regional environmental impacts through the implementation of renewable energy technology. A major component of this proposal is education and involvement outreach to the community. This is critical for the community to feel confident in supporting and contributing to the Tribal Government's decisions that impact their land, people, and culture. Shoshone Bannock Tribal Air Quality Program will be conducting sample analysis for Green House Gases (GHG) for a period of 10 months to determine the levels of carbon derivatives and other gases contributing to environmental impacts originating from the Tribal Campus and surrounding areas (10-mile radius). Using the Air Quality Monitor 65 (AQM-65), the Air Quality Program and its consultant will then analyze the data that was collected over the 10 months and form an informative presentation to the community. The main objective is to help the community understand how harmful air emissions are impacting the community and undermining resiliency efforts. The project will educate the community on how renewable energy technologies, such as solar and wind, can reduce air emissions thus positively impacting the health of the community. The quantitative data from air monitoring of GHG and PMs and also educating the community will help provide stakeholder feedback on environmental issues and solutions. Stakeholder feedback will be used to help develop a Tribal wide Strategic Energy plan that will address how the community can benefit from greener and safer renewable energy technology for their energy needs.

2)

Recipient: Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes

Applicant Type: Tribal Government

Project Title: *Juneau's Community Preparedness and Disaster Resiliency Expo"*

Project Location: Juneau, AK

Project Partners: City and Borough of Juneau, the Coastguard, Village of Kasaan, Native Village of Eyak, and the Klawock Cooperative Association

Environmental Statute(s): Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3);

Project Type: Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Planning

Project Description:

The Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska is proposing an educational expo for all ages featuring demonstrations, printed materials, and presentations. The purpose of the event is for community members to learn how to plan for their families in the event of an emergency or disaster. Tlingit & Haida will also plan to make a tool or app available at the expo to help families in the community access clean water for drinking and every day needs. To better inform and spread emergency preparedness information to the community, Environmental Specialist (ES), Environmental Technician (ET) and Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) will work with the planning committee and set a date for event and reserve a hall. ES, ET, and NRS and the planning committee will create a list of organizations to invite and send out invitations for them to present and demonstrate. ES, ET, and NRS will develop outreach flyers and work with the Communications department to help spread the word of the event. "Juneau's Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Resiliency Expo" event will be conducted. Potential guests and presenters at the expo may include: The Red Cross, FEMA, emergency responders such as the local Fire Department and Police Department, school district representative(s), Coastguard, NOAA, and other tribal, local, state, or federal agencies that would like to participate.