



# Outreach and Information Division Updates

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NACAA Fall Meeting 2019



# Overview

- ▶ **Outreach and Information Division (OID): who we are and what we do**
  
- ▶ **Priorities**
  - ▶ National Air Quality Training Center
  - ▶ Information Transfer and Technology Centralization/Integration/Modernization
  - ▶ Outreach and Education for Tribes, Communities, and Small Businesses
  
- ▶ **Questions/Feedback**



## OID: Who We Are

- ▶ **Our Mission:** Improve air quality and public health through data management, outreach and education
- ▶ **Values:** Collaboration, Innovation, Accountability, Transparency, Respect
- ▶ **Our People**



# OID: What We Do

- ▶ **(1) Training, Education and Outreach**
  - ▶ **Innovative Programs and Outreach Group (IPOG)**
    - ▶ National training program
    - ▶ Burn Wise - Burning the Right Wood, the Right Way in the Right Appliance
  
  - ▶ **Community and Tribal Programs Group (CTPG)**
    - ▶ Supports Tribal Nations' implementation of Clean Air Act (CAA) through education and outreach
    - ▶ Supports EJ communities effective engagement in CAA rulemaking and permit development and addressing local air quality concerns
    - ▶ Support small businesses to implement CAA rules through outreach and compliance assistance



# OID: What We Do (cont'd)

## ▶ (2) Information Transfer and Technology

### ▶ Information Transfer Group (ITG)

- ▶ Puts OAQPS information and programs in the public's hands
  - ▶ AirNow
  - ▶ Air Quality Flag Program
  - ▶ Maintains OAQPS web content, Section 508 compliance
  - ▶ Provides support for webinars

### ▶ National Air Data Group (NADG)

- ▶ Manages large-scale data systems that house data used to develop and implement EPA's national air programs
  - ▶ The Air Quality System (AQS) - official repository of ambient air quality monitoring data submitted by state, local, tribal and federal agencies.
  - ▶ The Emissions Inventory System (EIS) - the official repository of air emissions data submitted by federal, state, local, tribal and industrial sources
  - ▶ The AQS Data Mart - the public's access to the ambient air quality monitoring data.



# OID Priorities: Training

- ▶ EPA statutory obligation in Section 103 CAA to:
  - ▶ “conduct and promote coordination and acceleration of training for individuals relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, and control of air pollution”
- ▶ National Air Quality Training Center
  - ▶ VISION: A modern, sustainable National Air Quality Training Center focused on partner needs and continuous improvement. The Center serves as a central, “go-to” resource for building training knowledge, skills, and capacity for air quality professionals.
  - ▶ The Center will be cost-effective, staff-driven and requires minimal contractor support.

# National Air Quality Training Center: Key Functions



- ▶ **Central Resource Library**: create and maintain a central resource center for air quality training coursework and resources supporting different adult learning methods and formats.
  - ▶ Assess, prioritize and update training resources in a timely manner to ensure resources in the library remain current and accurate.
- ▶ **National Cadre of Subject Matter Experts**: create and maintain a network of experts to ensure that a national cadre of subject matter experts (SMEs) is available for the development, refresh and delivery of training resources.
- ▶ **Technical Training Assistance**: provide technical assistance for developing air quality training materials beyond the Central Resource Library.
  - ▶ Develop expertise on training delivery methods and formats to identify the best approaches to creating and delivering training material for targeted audiences.
  - ▶ Organize training material in the library to ensure broad access.

# National Air Quality Training Center: Efforts to Revamp the Curricula

## Updating the Air Quality Curricula

- ▶ EPA's current learning management system (APTI-Learn) houses curricula based on job type (e.g., permitting).
- ▶ The majority of these curricula were originally developed in the 1980's-1990's, and have not been substantively updated since the 2000's.
- ▶ EPA is embarking on an effort to update these curricula to make them intuitive, student-centered, and built around learning outcomes (objectives).
- ▶ Plan is to replace APTI-Learn with a new learning management system (LMS) that can support the updated curricula.
  - ▶ Decisions re: the curricula will inform decisions about the LMS.

## Partnerships are critical to this effort.

- ▶ We will be updating the curricula in partnership with EPA OAQPS, EPA Regions, states through the Joint Training Committee (JTC), and tribes through national workgroups.



# Curricula Categories

- ▶ Air Pollution Basics—this curriculum helps set the stage for the job-specific curricula (listed below)
- ▶ Air quality planning
- ▶ Air toxics
- ▶ Permitting
- ▶ Modelling
- ▶ Ambient Air Monitoring
- ▶ Source Monitoring
- ▶ Emissions Inventories
- ▶ Enforcement

# National Air Quality Training Center: Efforts to Stand up a New Learning Management System

- ▶ **Requirements Assessment for LMS**
- ▶ **Compiling of Requirements**
- ▶ **Next Steps**
  - ▶ Finalize list of requirements by December 2019 in preparation for market research.
  - ▶ EPA will conduct market research to determine capable vendors and begin procurement process.
  - ▶ Launch new LMS by January 2021.

# National Air Quality Training Center

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# National Air Quality Training Center: Key Milestones

FY 2020

- ▶ Select new learning management system (LMS)
- ▶ Develop new air curricula with learning objectives
- ▶ Evaluate status of existing coursework
- ▶ Three-year course development plan; Update 4-5 courses
- ▶ Develop national cadre of subject matter experts (SME)
- ▶ Develop and provide technical training assistance

FY 2021

- ▶ Launch LMS; transfer course content to new LMS
- ▶ Update 4-5 courses
- ▶ Maintain national cadre of SME

FY 2022-  
24

- ▶ Implement and maintain LMS
- ▶ Transfer course content
- ▶ Update up to 20 courses/year



## OID Priorities: Information Transfer and Technology

- ▶ **Vision: OAQPS Information Technology Center**
  - ▶ Integrate, consolidate (where possible) and modernize existing IT data and information systems across OAQPS
  - ▶ Manage information technology to facilitate the exchange of air quality information in support of OAQPS programs
  - ▶ Provide integrated technology solutions, trouble shooting, and support to enable OAQPS to make the most of its IT resources
- ▶ **Strategy and Timetable Under Development**



# OLD Priorities: Outreach and Education for Communities, Tribes and Small Businesses

- ▶ Facilitate and enhance OAQPS' engagement with tribes, communities, and Small businesses re: OAQPS programs
  - ▶ Continue with ongoing efforts to engage with tribes and communities
- ▶ FY 2020: Build capacity and launch program for engaging with small businesses in the rulemaking process
  - ▶ Strategy and timetable under development



QUESTIONS?

FEEDBACK?

THANK YOU!!!