



U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management



# Office of National Transportation Tribal Interactions Overview

Presented to:  
**TEC Tribal Topic Group**

Presented by:  
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**Office of National Transportation**

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**Washington, DC**

# Tribal Topic Group Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome and introductions**
- **Roll call**
- **Update on Department of Energy (DOE)/HQ Tribal activities**
- **Update on Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) Tribal interactions**
- **Update on interactions with YMP Native American Interaction Program**
- **Tribal news and updates**
- **Discussion of 180(c) Approach**
- **Future Tribal Topic Group teleconferences**
- **Wrap up**



# Tribal Program Priorities

- **Initiate consultation with Tribes along potential transportation corridors**
  - Issue notification letter
  - Contact Tribal leaders regarding notification letter
  - Begin holding discussions and/or meetings with Tribal representatives on the transportation program
- **Work with Tribes, in addition to States and other stakeholders, to develop the transportation system**



# National and Regional Tribal Interactions

- **OCRWM intends to conduct direct collaboration with Tribes**
- **OCRWM will maintain national and regional approaches for interactions and information exchanges with Tribes**
  - **Regional**
    - ◆ **Yucca Mountain Native American Interaction Program**
  - **National**
    - ◆ **Transportation External Coordination Working Group (TEC)**
    - ◆ **State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWWG)**
    - ◆ **National Conference of State Legislatures – Native American Legislators' Caucus**



# Direct Collaboration with Tribal Governments

- **In 2005, letters were sent to Tribal leaders along routes analyzed in the Repository Final Environmental Impact Statement to request coordination on OCRWM transportation planning**
- **Follow-up calls and visits are now being made to Tribal leaders to initiate interactions on the transportation program**
  - **Explore Tribal preferences for collaboration**
  - **Solicit a point of contact for the Tribe**
  - **Identify which Tribes would like DOE to come to meet with Tribal leadership**
  - **Propose a regionalized approach to work with Tribes**
  - **Leverage existing relationships built by DOE through other programs and DOE field offices**



# Meetings with Tribes

- **OCRWM has begun to meet with Tribal representatives on the transportation program**
- **OCRWM has met with:**
  - **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, OR – September 29, 2005**
  - **Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, NV – October 14, 2005**
  - **Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, CA – October 17, 2005**
  - **Timbisha-Shoshone Tribe, NV/CA – November 18, 2005**
  - **Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, CA – February 22, 2006**
- **OCRWM plans to hold additional meetings with Tribes in the upcoming months**



# Key TEC Tribal Topics to be Addressed

- **TEC Tribal Topic Group members can provide feedback to OCRWM and input on a host of implementation issues and policy questions including:**
  - **Approaches for engaging Tribes along potential transportation routes**
  - **Methods for providing funding and technical assistance for emergency response training [Section 180(c)]**
  - **Route identification methodologies**
  - **Shipment notification and cask inspections**
  - **Safety/security oversight**



# TEC Tribal Topic Group Meetings Update

- **September 2005 – Pueblo, CO**
  - Provided an overview of the transportation program
  - Began discussion on Section 180(c) of the NWRPA, financial and technical assistance approach
  - Provided an update on initial contact with 39 Tribes
- **Teleconferences with group members**
  - Advance and develop the collaborative process
    - ◆ Engage Tribes on transportation strategy planning
    - ◆ Develop information materials
    - ◆ Coordinate approach for providing Section 180(c) financial and technical assistance to Tribes



# TEC Tribal Topic Group Recommendations

- **Recommendations and preferences from the Spring 2005 TEC meeting included –**
  - **Outreach**
    - ◆ **Inform Tribes before decisions are made**
    - ◆ **Explore regional/national meetings for 39 Tribes**
    - ◆ **Develop a Tribal outreach strategy**
    - ◆ **Solicit greater participation of Tribes in the Topic Group**
  - **Funding and technical assistance [Section 180(c)]**
    - ◆ **Develop Needs Assessment Plan for Tribal priorities for funding**
    - ◆ **Create a simple application process**
    - ◆ **Appoint Tribal representatives to application review board**



# Next Steps: Tribal Interaction Approaches

- **DOE is committed to expanding its interactions with Tribes along potential transportation routes**
- **Approaches to support interactions could include:**
  - **Evaluate existing Federal working relationships with Tribes**
  - **Hold discussions and/or meetings to explore Tribal government preferences of what and how they want to be involved**
  - **Consider equitable approaches for funding allocation to Tribes**
  - **Develop national and Nevada approaches to consultation processes and day-to-day working relationships**
  - **Address Tribal governments' concerns**
- **OCRWM is open to suggestions from Tribes and welcomes ideas on how best to pursue future interactions**



# Goals

- **Encourage expanded participation by Tribal members in the TEC Tribal Topic Group**
- **Continue TEC Tribal Topic Group meetings**
- **Meet with additional Tribes identified along the representative routes**
- **Encourage Tribal participation in the development of the funding approach [Section 180(c)]**
- **Continue to participate in Tribal outreach efforts through a regional and national approach**

