Tribal Waste & Response Priorities Document

Tribal Environmental Leaders
R6-R8 Joint RTOC Meeting
Albuquerque, NM
October 14, 2023

What is the TWAR Steering Committee?

- A federally recognized Tribal Partnership Group (TPG) that works with other TPG's and is assisted by coordinators from ITEP

- Funding: 5 Year
  - EPA Community Advisory Group
  - Competitive
- Work closely with EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM) on annual Priorities Document
- Hosts Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF)
- Participates in training courses

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2023 Priorities Document

Mission Statement: Maintain a cooperative exchange of information between American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, US EPA OLEM, other federal partners and organizations to assess, understand, prevent, or mitigate environmental impacts that adversely affect health, culture, and natural resources

You can access all Priority Documents since 2015 here:
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/twarsc/PriorityDocument/

Overarching Goals & Objectives

- Solid Waste
- Brownfields
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Superfund & Federal Facilities
- Emergency Management
- Emerging Contaminants

EPA Responds to the PD annually

- EPA strongly supports efforts by TPG's
- Supports the use of TEK, as defined by Tribes
- Attends Tribal Sovereignty and climate adaption courses
- Documents the incorporation of Tribal Treaty Rights, Aboriginal Territories, and Customary Traditional Use Areas
- Maintains annual meetings with TWAR SC and OLEM Directors
- Leverages resources to increase Tribal capacity

We would love your input!

- TWAR Steering Committee (SC) call for applications in the Spring of 2024
  - Currently two vacancies on SC
- FY24 Priorities Document: ~ Spring 2024
- Involvement, feedback, awareness of concerns re: OLEM Programs in Indian Country & AK Villages is welcomed!
- ITEP's Waste and Response Website: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/twarsc

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