



Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee Monthly Conference Call

Thursday, March 14, 2017

12:00 pm (Alaska)

1:00 pm (Pacific)

2:00pm (Mountain)

Conference Call Number & Code

Dial-in Number: (641) 715-0700

Toll free: (844) 844-0065

Access Code: 993885

Attendance: Tom Robinson- AK NTOC 1 , Chris Price- AK NTOC 1 Alternate, Billy Maines- AK NTOC 2 & R10 Tribal Co-Chair, Lee Juan Tyler- EWA/EOR ID NTOC, Ladd Edmo- EWA/EOR ID NTOC Alternate, Deb Lekanof- WWA/WOR NTOC Alternate, Sam Penney- ID RTOC, Raymond Paddock- AK 1 RTOC, Brian Holter- AK 1 RTOC Alternate, Lance Whitwell- AK 2, Elizabeth Sanchey- EWA RTOC & R10 Tribal Co-Chair, Shallee Baker- WWA RTOC, Noelle Saluskin- EWA RTOC Alternate, Randi Madison- R10 Communications Specialist, Rick Eichstaedt- Policy Advisor

Michelle Pirzadeh- R10 EPA Acting Regional Administrator, Michelle Davis, Joyce Kelly, Ann Williamson, Lisa Castanon, JR Herbst, Dan Opalski

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Tribal Caucus members** please bring a door prize to give away at the Tribal Leader's Summit.
2. **Randi Madison** put approval of Jan, Feb and March conference call minutes on the In-person meeting agenda for March 28-29.
3. **Rick Eichstaedt and Deb Lekanof** will draft a letter to Scott Pruitt regarding the petition to overturn the WA fish consumption rate, government to government, water quality and submit by the end of March.

Topic

**Reserved for Tribal Caucus called to order at 12:05 pm AK
Tribal Consortium Business & Open Discussion**

All TOC & EPA Members Join

- I. Opening Remarks & Roll Call
 - Approval of this Agenda
- II. Old Business
 - Approval of Jan and Feb minutes. **Elizabeth Sanchey** motioned to postpone approval of minutes until our in-person meeting March 28-29. **Brian Holter** seconded. Motion carried.

III. New Business

RTOC Tribal Chair/Co-chair Updates

- Tribal Environmental Leader's Summit Update: Pleased with how it's all coming along.
- Review draft March meeting agenda
- **Lee Juan Tyler** requested an update on the WA Fish Consumption rate being challenged by industries for overturning. **Lisa Castanon** stated that a petition was submitted in respect with the WA WQS, and a petition was filed in Region 1 in the state of Maine. Brief Administrator next week on Treaty Rights in accordance to Water Quality Standards. **Deb Lekanof** suggested the RTOC Tribal Caucus submit additional information for the briefing. Rick asked for clarification on the process for overturning a ruling. **Dan Opalski** assumed that there is a norm to have a rule making process to overturn, however norms are not reliable, so they have to take a closer look at it.

2. RTOC Policy Analyst Updates

- **Comment Periods open:** Consultation on Chemical.... Closes on Monday March 20, 2017. National Toxics Council does not include tribal subsistence or life ways in its report. Rick has a template letter, RTOC will be submitting comment. **CERCLA** due May 5, 2017. Request to have an update on this from EPA at our March in-person meeting.
- **EPA Updates, Michelle Pirzadeh, EPA**
 - No new information on who the new R10 Administrator will be. There have not been any RAs appointed across the nation as of yet.
 - White House posted their Budget Blueprint this morning, containing information the President is proposing significant cuts. Cut of 2.6 billion to EPA resulting in approximately 3,200 positions, and 50 programs with examples, such as the Alaska Native Village Safe Water program. The President's budget is expected to be submitted in May and will prioritize Veterans Assistance and Defense.
 - Trump sent a letter to Speaker of the House re: additional agency cuts for 2017 of 18 billion, exact agencies are not specifically outlined.
 - **Tom Robinson** expressed interest in Michelle Pirzadeh asking the Coast Guard about homeland security and any updates from them.
 - **TEK Workgroup** met in a call and will share a 1 pager to present to the RTOC regarding training for the EPA staff on this issue.
 - **Another executive order was issued this week**, calling for each government agency head to review the agency for possible reductions in spending. They were given 180 days to present to the Office of Management and Budget.
- **Communications Specialist Update**
 - Travel Q&A
 - Story Telling
 - Website

IV. Upcoming Events

- RTOC In-Person Meeting: March 27-28 in Port Gamble, WA hosted by the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Tribal Environmental Leader's Summit: March 29-31, 2017 in Suquamish, WA

V. Adjourned at 1:32 pm AK

Attachments: (4)

- 1) Jan and Feb conference call minutes for approval
- 2) TLS Agenda
- 3) March In person Meeting Agenda