

National Tribal Toxics Council

Charter

RECITLES:

The National Tribal Toxics Council (NTTC) was created January 24, 2012.

The NTTC is funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through a cooperative agreement with the Administrator. The Administrator is the fiduciary agent of the NTTC.

The specific duties, responsibilities and activities of the NTTC and staff are detailed in the work plan.

As a federally funded Council, activities of the NTTC are open to all interested Tribal participants, within the parameters of the current budget.

ARTICLE I: MISSION

The mission of the NTTC is to advance tribal toxics management policies and programs, consistent with the needs, interests, and unique legal status of American Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians¹, and to:

1. Raise and assess tribal chemical risk management and pollution prevention (P2) program development and implementation issues with the EPA Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT);
2. Assess national chemical risk management policy and pollution prevention initiatives that affect tribes and Alaska Native Villages;
3. Offer a network for tribal chemical risk management officials to share information and represent tribal interests on chemical risk management policy and pollution prevention initiatives that impact tribes; and,
4. Assist the EPA in promoting and enhancing tribal chemical risk management and pollution prevention program development.

¹Native Hawaiians and other non-federally recognized tribes are encouraged to join the NTTC and participate in NTTC activities. However, NTTC's funding sources may prohibit any monies spent on non-federally recognized American Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

ARTICLE II: GOALS

1. Strengthen tribal chemical risk management and pollution prevention programs where they already exist;
2. Assist tribes and Native Alaskan Villages that do not have chemical risk management and pollution prevention programs in assessing whether they need such programs and, if so, in developing and implementing such programs;
3. Facilitate communications between tribes, Alaskan Native Villages, intertribal organizations, states, and the EPA on chemical risk management and pollution prevention issues;
4. Provide chemical risk management and pollution prevention information to tribes, Native Alaskan Villages and intertribal organizations;
5. Help tribes, Native Alaskan Villages and intertribal organizations become knowledgeable about and have a better understanding of chemical risk management and pollution prevention issues;
6. Raise any chemical risk management and pollution prevention concerns, interests, inquiries and information communicated to the NTTC by tribes, Native Alaskan Villages, and intertribal organizations to EPA and other federal agencies; and,
7. Promote chemical risk management education and pollution prevention awareness and assist in the establishment, development, and implementation of comprehensive chemical risk management and pollution prevention programs in Indian Country.

ARTICLE IV: COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

1. The NTTC shall work cooperatively with the Administrator in providing guidance on the work plan and budget of the NTTC. NTTC members shall also work to provide outreach to tribes about NTTC activities and solicit input from tribes on NTTC related issues.

2. The NTTC members shall serve at the convenience of the Council and be comprised of approximately twelve (12) members, based on available funding. New members shall be recruited to fill open seats ninety (90) days prior to one semi-annual face-to-face meeting. Membership in the NTTC is open to representatives of federally recognized Tribes or intertribal consortia with written permission from that Tribe or consortia to serve on the NTTC. Each member can name an alternate of their choosing, to fill in for them if they cannot be present.
3. The NTTC may name Ex Officio members as appropriate to carrying out the mission of the NTTC. Vacancies on the NTTC will be announced via a nationwide solicitation for applications. Applications will be considered by the existing NTTC members. Selection to the Council will be based on diversity of geography and expertise, striving for a broad range of perspectives to further the NTTC's mission.
4. Members are expected to participate fully in all NTTC activities. If a member is no longer able to participate or has two (2) consecutive unexcused absences from NTTC meetings and/or conference calls, that position may be declared vacant by the Chairperson.
5. Each NTTC member shall serve a renewable two (2) year term unless otherwise directed by the Council.
6. The terms shall be staggered to ensure continuity among the NTTC. Terms shall begin on October 1 and end on September 30 two years subsequent.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

There shall be two (2) Officer positions, elected by a quorum of the NTTC.

1. Chairperson
 - a. The Chairperson shall serve for a term of two (2) years.
 - b. The Chairperson's duties involve moderating meetings and working with Administrator to ensure that the work plan duties are being carried out.

2. Vice Chairperson

- a. The Vice Chairperson will fill in for the Chairperson if the Chairperson is absent.

ARTICLE V: DECISION MAKING PROCESS

1. All decisions of the NTTC shall be by consensus of the Council, including but not limited to:
 - a. Selection of new members;
 - b. Guidance on grant work plan activities;
 - c. Content of policy advice and comment letters to be issued by the NTTC; and
 - d. Amendments to these bylaws.
2. If consensus cannot be achieved, the Council shall hold a majority vote.

The original NTTC Charter signed January 25, 2012 was amended by the Council at the NTTC Semi-annual face-to-face meeting held on October 7, 2013 in Spokane, WA. This amended Charter is approved and effective as of Month Day, 2013.



Dianne C. Barton

October 7, 2013

NTTC Chair