United States Environmental Protection Agency

Solid Waste And Emergency Response (OS-340)

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Issue #2
Spring 1991

EPA Native American Network

A RCRA Information Exchange

Around the Regions

Region VIII Tribes Meet To Form Environmental Coalition

Tribal leaders and officials from the Region VIII Indian tribes recently gathered in Rapid City, South Dakota to address environmental concerns and to begin formation of a coalition. Invitations were sent to tribes in North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. Federal agencies including EPA, Indian Health Service (IHS), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) also were invited. Nearly 120 tribal representatives attended "The Solid Waste and Environmental Conference," held November 1-2, 1990.

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The Oglala Sioux Tribe And the Blue Legs Decision

Mattie Blue Legs (an Oglala tribal member) and Margaret Jenkins (a nonmember) owned land adjacent to an open dump on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. In 1985, after exhausting all avenues to resolve what they considered to be a serious waste disposal problem, they filed a civil suit in the U.S. Court against EPA, BIA, IHS, and the Oglala Sioux Tribe (OST) claiming violations under RCRA. (EPA was later dismissed from the suit.) Ultimately, the Court handed down the Blue Legs Decision in favor of the plaintiffs.

In February 1990, the Oglala Sioux Tribe was ordered to implement the "Plan for Solid Waste Management Program, Option One, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota," commonly referred to as the Option One Plan. The Plan, developed by the IHS and BIA, provided a short-term solution to the

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Pine Ridge before the Court-ordered cleanup

Mattie Blue Legs

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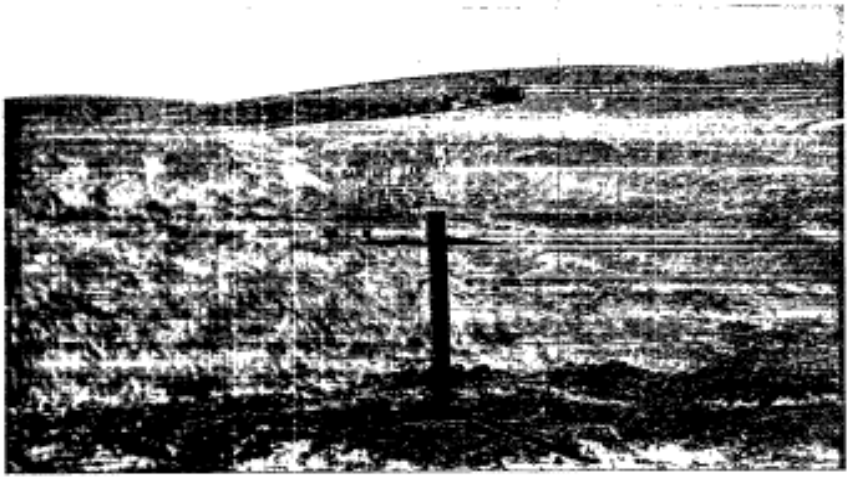
solid waste problems on the 1.8 million acre Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The Court ordered the initial funding for the implementation of the Plan in the amount of $370,323. The cost was allocated to BIA (50 percent), IHS (25 percent), and OST (25 percent). Additionally, the Tribe was assigned responsibility for managing the solid waste program.

The Plan's goals were to clean up and close 14 existing open dumps; construct nine new sanitary landfills; purchase operation and maintenance equipment; provide operation and maintenance of the new landfills; develop codes to regulate solid waste disposal; and provide public education to the Reservation's residents.



Pine Ridge after Mattie Blue Legs

Since the implementation of the Plan, all 14 sites have been cleaned up and closed; nine new landfills have been built; personnel and equipment are in place to conduct operation and maintenance; a draft of the solid waste code is under review; and a massive public education program has been initiated.

In addition to achieving the Plan's goals, the Plan was amended to incorporate the Tribe's voluntary efforts to include more of RCRA's municipal landfill criteria; to address the Reservation's service requirements; and to revise the budget so that the Plan could be implemented without financial burdens on limited Tribal funds.

The Tribe was faced with implementing the Plan using the funds provided by the federal defendants, which amounts to only 75 percent of the estimated cost. These funds did not cover the cost of the landfills' operation and maintenance. They also did not cover the costs of providing adequate collection service to the Reservation's nine districts and the communities within them. However, the Plan called for "the orderly removal and transportation of wastes from the point of generation to the point of disposal." Since the landfills were operational as soon as construction was complete, the budget had to be revised to include funds for operation and maintenance at the landfills, and for program operating costs until money can be collected through user fees.

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Region VIII Meets

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Although the conference focused on solid waste issues, other environmental topics discussed include asbestos and water. The agenda included presentations by several tribes and a panel discussion with representatives from EPA, BIA, HUD, and IHS.

Attendees divided into workgroups to discuss developing the coalition. The workgroups focused on the coalition's scope and issues; objectives and goals; membership and structure; financing; and operational plan. Participants reviewed and discussed reports from the workgroups.

The goals of the coalition are:

– to facilitate a process for exchange of data and information to ensure tribal awareness of and cooperation on environmental protection; and

– to present a collective voice to Congress for securing adequate funding and representation on Indian environmental concerns.

After the coalition has been established, the Region VIII tribes will assist tribes in other EPA Regions to form their own coalitions, with an eventual goal of establishing a national coalition. Ultimately, the national coalition will work with Congressional leaders to fulfill RCRA's goals.

— Contact: Rinard Yellow Boy, Oglala Sioux Tribe, (605) 867-5821

INSIGHTS

Training: A Powerful Management Tool for Tribal Governments

Interest in training has increased enormously over the last decade. Industry, business, government, and the general public have a need for training. With recent advances in technological development, the need for highly skilled and trained individuals has become an absolute necessity. A recent business journal article states the theme of the 1990s will be "train, train, train."

Tribal governments (like state governments, industry, and EPA), find there is a severe shortage of adequately trained individuals who understand RCRA. What has to be done to solve this problem is on-the-job training. RCRA training is not a lot different than many technical training programs. When people start new jobs or change jobs, their skills, while very useful, are not necessarily adequate enough to carry out the responsibilities of the new position. A person must acquire new skills and new information to tackle the new job. This is the problem most organizations, and the people within those organizations who work with RCRA, face.

What is needed is a general training program; a program which helps a person who is new to RCRA to understand it as quickly and thoroughly as possible. OSW has created a core RCRA orientation course to assist new people in acquiring this general understanding. This orientation course can be easily used by those individuals who need a general background. For specific training in those areas where tribal governments have specific problems, a great deal is available from the EPA, the states, and private contractors. To use this training efficiently, it is important to set up training plans with those individuals who are going to be involved in the training. EPA's Regional Indian Coordinator is an important contact person in this effort.

This leaves two needs yet unanswered in the training program. One is experiential learning – working directly on problems with experienced people. Again, the Regional Indian Coordinator can arrange for this type of experience. All too often direct experience is neglected because people are very busy and simply don't take the time to make it happen.

The second need that is extremely important is developing a RCRA network. We talk a lot these days about "networking." Networking is developing contacts with

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For Help, SWICH

The Solid Waste Information Clearinghouse (SWICH) collects and disseminates information on all aspects of municipal solid waste management. Developed through an EPA grant, SWICH provides access to an electronic bulletin board that allows users to access the latest solid waste information, weekly legislative and regulatory updates, case studies, lists of experts, a calendar of events, and a listing of hotlines. By accessing the bulletin board through a computer modem, users can view over 6,000 listings of journals, reports, newsletters, proceedings, and films. Users can search for information by topic, title, author, key words, type of media (journal, book, film), and date. In addition to the bulletin board, SWICH maintains an open stack system library which is available for use by the general public.

To learn more about SWICH, the bulletin board, or the library hours of operation, call the toll-free SWICH Hotline at (800) 67-SWICH. Write: SWICH, P.O. Box 7219, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Mattie Blue Legs

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In estimating the cost of the Plan, in actual services and other implementation items, OST contributed far more than 25 percent of the hard dollars. OST's contribution includes Tribal land, Tribal personnel for management and site supervision, and publication materials. Additionally, implementation took more time than originally calculated.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe plans to continue operating the solid waste management project in accordance with the Court-ordered Plan, at least for the next year. An interim user fee program has been developed to generate revenue for continued management of solid waste until Tribal ordinances are finalized.

The Plan is a definite improvement over previous solid waste management practices, but it is not a permanent solution. The Tribe is studying alternatives that may be more suitable for the unique situation on the Reservation and that will meet or exceed current and pending federal regulations.

— Contact: Wade Vitalis, Oglala Sioux Tribe, (605) 867-5821

CLARIT Web Print: 530SW91001 Native American Network: A RCRA Information Exchange, Issue Number 2, Spring 1991

Hot Topics

Native American Network answers questions people frequently ask EPA.

Q: Americans scrap 234 million tires each year. What are the environmental impacts of all this tire disposal?

A: Most of the health and environmental hazards related to tire disposal are caused by long-standing stockpiles of whole tires. The air pockets in tires provide convenient habitats for rodents and they hold water. The water provides ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which can transmit serious diseases.

Stockpiled tires also pose fire hazards. Burning stockpiles are difficult to extinguish because the air pockets trap oxygen that constantly feeds the flames. When burning, tires emit a noxious, air-polluting black smoke. The remaining oils and soot can run off into and contaminate surface and ground-water supplies. Some tire fires have burned for more than a year!

Q: How can I get rid of old tires?

A: You can check your local library for issues of *Waste Age, Scrap Tire News, Resource Recycling*, and other solid waste publications that list tire shredding companies in several states, or check your telephone directory for a list of scrap tire companies located in your area. You can also call EPA's RCRA Hotline to obtain the address and phone number of the person to contact about tires in your state. Then call your state and ask for a list of companies that accept waste tires in your area. EPA does not remove tires.

Q: How does the forthcoming criteria for municipal solid waste landfills affect facilities constructed between the promulgation and the effective dates of the new criteria?

A: The date of construction of a landfill is not the relevant factor regarding compliance. The trigger event for compliance is the placement of waste. Any landfill which accepts waste after the effective date is subject to the applicable technical requirements of the criteria, including liner requirements.

Training

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people who are knowledgeable and have experience. A network also provides contacts with people who are working with the same issues and trying to solve the same kinds of problems. Networking and training go together. Training brings people together and helps them find out who can help. Networks start with training and build throughout one's working career.

So what is training? It is listening, reading, asking questions, discussing, problem solving, networking, developing skills, communications, and all the other things each of us does every day to improve ourselves. It offers basic concepts and teaches an individual how to apply them to specific situations. It is no wonder the world's most successful corporations so strongly stress the need for training. They have found the most important part of any organization is its people, and the investment in training people saves money by increasing efficiency. It is not a frill, but a necessary part of any organization. *Training is the tool that allows people to do their jobs.*

— Contact: Paul Nowak, School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, (313) 763-1312

RCRA Hotline

The RCRA Hotline operates Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST. The national, toll-free number is (800) 424-9346; TDD (800) 553-7672 (hearing impaired). In Washington, D.C., the number is (703) 920-9810; TDD (703) 486-3323.

http://www.epa.gov/cgi-bin/clprint?Range=Pages...geCount=10&Print=Prepare+Document+for+Printing (4 of 11) [10/15/2004 10:10:09 AM]

EPA Publications

The following publications are available at no charge from the EPA RCRA/Superfund Hotline. Call (800) 424-9346.

General

America's War on Waste - Environmental Fact Sheet	EPA/530-SW-90-002
Bibliography of Municipal Solid Waste Management Alternatives	EPA/530-SW-89-055
Characterization of Municipal Combustion Ash, Ash Extracts, and Leachates - Executive Summary	EPA/530-SW-90-029B
Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 1990 Update - Executive Summary	EPA/530-SW-90-042A
Decision-Maker's Guide to Solid Waste Management (Volume I)	EPA/530-SW-89-072
Reusable News - Winter 1990	EPA/530-SW-90-018
Reusable News - Spring 1990	EPA/530-SW-90-039
Reusable News - Summer 1990	EPA/530-SW-90-055
Reusable News - Fall 1990	EPA/530-SW-90-056
Reusable News - Winter 1991	EPA/530-SW-91-020
Sites for Our Solid Waste: A Guidebook for Effective Public Involvement	EPA/530-SW-90-019
Siting Our Solid Waste: Making Public Involvement Work	EPA/530-SW-90-020
Unit Pricing: Providing an Incentive to Reduce Waste	EPA/530-SW-91-005
Variable Rates in Solid Waste: Handbook for Solid Waste Officials - Executive Summary	EPA/530-SW-90-084A

Source Reduction

Be An Environmentally Alert Consumer	EPA/530-SW-90-034A
Characterization of Products Containing Lead and Cadmium in Municipal Solid Waste in the United States, 1970 to 2000 - Executive Summary	EPA/530-SW-89-015C

Recycling

Recycling Brochure	EPA/530-SW-88-050
Recycling Works!	EPA/530-SW-89-014

Used Oil

How to Set Up a Local Program to Recycle Used Oil	EPA/530-SW-89-039A
Recycling Used Oil: For Service Stations and Other Vehicle Service Facilities	EPA/530-SW-89-039D

Plastics

Methods to Manage and Control Plastic Wastes - Executive Summary	EPA/530-SW-89-051A
The Facts about Plastics in the Marine Environment	EPA/530-SW-90-017B
The Facts on Degradable Plastics	EPA/530-SW-90-017D
The Facts on Recycling Plastics	EPA/530-SW-90-017E
Plastics: The Facts about Production, Use, and Disposal	EPA/530-SW-90-017A
Plastics: The Facts on Source Reduction	EPA/530-SW-90-017C

Educational Materials

Adventures of the Garbage Gremlin	EPA/530-SW-90-024
Let's Reduce and Recycle: Curriculum for Solid Waste Awareness	EPA/530-SW-90-005
Recycle Today: Educational Materials for Grades K-12	EPA/530-SW-90-025
Ride the Wave of the Future: Recycle Today!	EPA/530-SW-90-010
School Recycling Programs: A Handbook for Educators	EPA/530-SW-90-023

The following EPA publications are available for a fee from the National Technical Information Services (NTIS). Call (703) 487-4650.

Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste Combustion Ash, Ash Extracts, and Leachate	PB90-187 154
Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 1990 Update	PB90-215 112
Charging Households for Waste Collection and Disposal: The Effects of Weight- or Volume-Based Pricing on Solid Waste Management	PB91-111 484
Methods to Manage and Control Plastic Wastes	PB90-163 106
Office Paper Recycling: An Implementation Manual	PB90-199 431
Promoting Source Reduction and Recycling in the Marketplace	PB90-163 122
Variable Rates in Solid Waste: Handbook for Solid Waste Officials	PB90-272 063
Yard Waste Composting: A Study of Eight Programs	PB90-163 114

EPA Native American Network

Recycling Used Oil: For Service Stations and Other Vehicle Service Facilities	EPA/530-SW-89-039D
Recycling Used Oil: 10 Steps to Change Your Oil	EPA/530-SW-89-039C
Recycling Used Oil: What Can You Do?	EPA/530-SW-89-039B

A RCRA Information Exchange
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Municipal Solid Waste Contacts

Headquarters Contacts

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Bob Dellinger
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Waste Reduction and Management Branch
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- Residuals Management Section
- Source Reduction Section

Recycling and Implementation Branch
Truett DeGeare
Chief
(202) 382-6261
- Recycling Section
- Implementation Section

Industrial Solid Waste Branch
Jim Lounsbury
Chief
(202) 382-4807

Regional Contacts

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(HEE-CAN 6)
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(617) 573-9656

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Air and Waste Management Division
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U.S. EPA - Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278
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(212) 264-2657

Region 3
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Waste Management Branch
(2HW30)
U.S. EPA - Region 3
841 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
FTS 8-597-0982
(215) 597-0982

Region 4
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Waste Management Division
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345 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30365
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(404) 347-2091

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(5HR-13)
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230 South Dearborn Street
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(312) 353-4686/353-8234

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(214) 655-6760

Region 7
Chet McLaughlin

Region 8
Judith Wong
Hazardous Waste Management Division
(8HWM-RM)
U.S. EPA - Region 8
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Denver, CO 80202-2405
FTS 8-330-1667
(303) 293-1667

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San Francisco, CA 94105
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U.S. EPA - Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
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Region 7
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Waste Management Division
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U.S. EPA - Region 7
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66101
FTS 8-276-7666
(913) 551-7666

BULLETIN BOARD

Dateline RCRA...Update on Significant OSW/RCRA Rulemakings

Feb. 21, 1991, 56 FR 7134: This rule imposes strict controls on the burning of hazardous waste in boilers and industrial furnaces. Hazardous waste burners affected by this regulation include nonindustrial, industrial, and utility boilers; cement and lightweight aggregate kilns; and halogen acid furnaces. These facilities must now obtain operating permits under RCRA or stop burning hazardous waste. The rule applies to all facilities (except metal reclamation furnaces) that burn hazardous waste for any reason: energy, materials recovery, or destruction. Details were provided to tribal leaders in a special mailing earlier this year. For additional information or to order a copy of the *Federal Register* notice, contact the RCRA Hotline.

EPA Training

Information on EPA training in all medias – in Washington, D.C. and around the Regions – is updated quaterly in *The OSWER Source Book*. The catalogue gives a brief summary of course content as well as dates, locations, and contacts. For copies of the catalogue, call the RCRA Hotline.

Tribal Environmental Information Clearinghouse

In response to commitments made during the September 19, 1990 Communications Framework meeting of EPA Executive Staff and Tribal members, a meeting has been scheduled to discuss further steps on an information clearinghouse with the tribes. Staff from the Administration for Native Americans (HHS) also have been invited for a possible interagency agreement with EPA and the Americans for Indian Opportunity to exchange information on environmental issues. *Contact: Janice Berry-Chen, Office of Regional Operations/State and Local Relations, (202) 245-3870.*

Solid Waste Focus Group Formed

Representatives from EPA program offices, BIA, and IHS met recently in the first of planned quarterly meetings to discuss RCRA issues and their impact on Indian lands. The objective of this group is to improve communication between the federal agencies here in Washington so that our efforts in addressing these issues are better coordinated **and** more effective. The first meeting included an update on RCRA Subtitle C (hazardous waste) and Subtitle D (solid waste) activities, EPA training initiatives that are underway, and a general discussion on the increase in siting proposals for facilities on Indian lands. The group hopes to support the activities of the Interagency Workgroup – already firmly established here at EPA – by bringing specific issues to its attention for consideration and possible action.

Information Resources

Please make the following changes to the Information Resources insert included in the Fall 1990 issue of *Native American Network.*

Phone Number Changes:

- Martin Topper (National Indian Coordinator) (202) 382-5051
- Ann Fenn (Region 1) (617) 656-3927 FTS 8-835-3927
- Michael Bronoski (Region VII) FTS 8-276-7921

The new OSWER Indian Coordinator is:

- Charlene Dunn (202) 382-4510 FTS 8-382-4510

While Casey Ambutas is "on assignment" (in the Persian Gulf), Mary Ann Starus is acting as Region V Indian Coordinator. Mary Ann can be reached at (312) 353-1394 or FTS 8-886-1394.

Nancy Parkinson is the RCRA Enforcement contact for RCRA Subtitle C. Nancy can be reached at (202) 475-8729 or FTS

(202) 382-4510
FTS 8-382-4510

be reached at (202) 475-8729 or FTS 8-475-8630.

You Might Want To Know About . . .

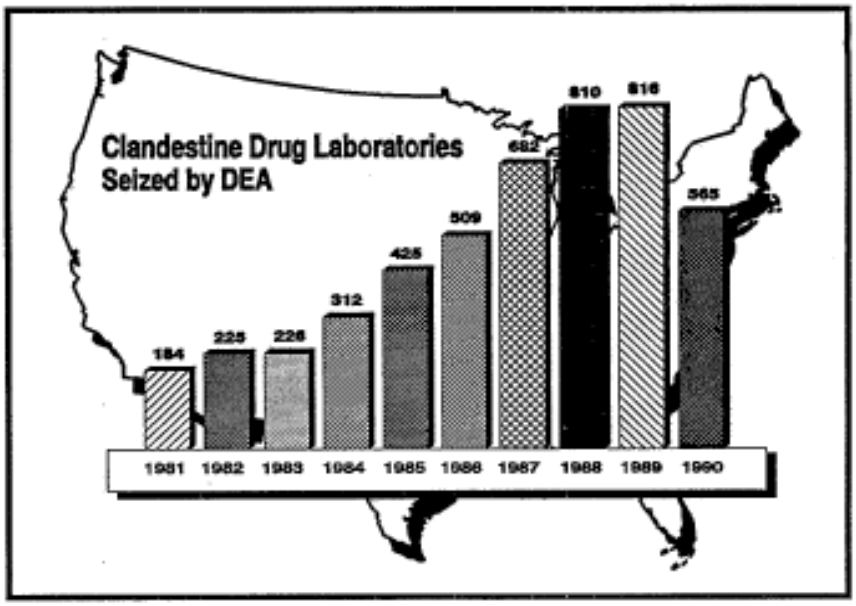
Clandestine Drug Labs

Clandestine drug laboratories can be located anywhere: in homes, hotels, apartments, and caves or on boats, private property, and public lands. Wastes may be dumped near the laboratory, or along roadsides, in sewers, lakes, or streams to avoid detection of the clandestine laboratory site and the violator. Indian lands have been used in the past for similar indiscriminate dumping.

Some sites have been in operation for years and have discarded large quantities of hazardous waste. Some of these may already have contaminated rivers, streams, and lakes, or percolated through the soil into the ground water.

Illegal (or clandestine) drug laboratories produce a variety of controlled drug substances which include hallucinogens and stimulants. The majority of the laboratories seized by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) produce three drugs: methamphetamine, amphetamine, and phencyclidine (PCP). Controlled substance analogs ("designer drugs") are also synthesized in an attempt to circumvent the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

The waste from these operations are a very real concern to the public. Clandestine drug laboratories may present both acute and chronic health risks to individuals involved in the seizure and cleanup of the site, to those who live or work nearby, and to the violator operating the laboratory. The chemicals used in these laboratories may be explosive, flammable, toxic, and/or corrosive. Environmental problems associated



the environment is overshadowed by the potential for high profits. Due to the unique hazards associated with clandestine drug laboratory investigations and seizures, DEA conducts a specialized two-week training course for its personnel assigned to this activity. This training consists of specialized investigative strategies, evidence handling procedures, as well as health and safety topics, identification of bombs and booby-traps, and proper handling of hazardous chemicals.

Trends

Illegal drug manufacturing has been on the rise over the last decade. In 1981, the DEA seized nearly 200 clandestine drug laboratories. By 1988, the number had risen to over 800. In 1990, however, the number dropped off to 565.

The Chemical Diversion and Trafficking Act (CDTA) was enacted in 1988. It identifies certain groups of chemicals which are important in the manufacturing of controlled substances. Although not controlled substances themselves, the chemicals are grouped as "essential" to or "precursor" of the manufacture of controlled substances. The CDTA also establishes threshold amounts which manufacturers may not sell without establishing the

threshold amounts which manufacturers may not sell without establishing the identity of the person purchasing the chemical. This law has made it more difficult for the illegal chemist to purchase the chemicals required to produce controlled substances.

be explosive, flammable, toxic, and/or corrosive. Environmental problems associated with these chemicals are compounded by the violator whose education ranges from novice (with little or no chemistry background) to the PhD chemist whose interest in protecting human health and

number dropped off to 565.

New legislation like the CDTA (see inset) is responsible to a large degree for the decline in the number of seizures by DEA. It is unclear whether the decline in the number of clandestine drug laboratory seizures

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FEDERAL PLAYERS

Administration for Native Americans: A Small Agency with a Big Mission

The Administration for Native Americans (ANA) is part of the Office of Human Development Services in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), located in Washington, D.C. ANA's mission is to promote the economic and social self-sufficiency of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native American Pacific Islanders by providing grants, training, and technical assistance, and promoting policies that encourage and support locally determined Native American social and economic development. The Commissioner is Timothy Wapato, who is also chairman of the Intradepartmental Council on Indian Affairs, a body that serves as the focal point within HHS for all matters regarding Native Americans.

ANA's program goals are based on the premise that local Native American communities are responsible for their own programs, and for building sound economic bases from their own natural, environmental, and human resources. The Administration seeks to (1) develop and strengthen tribal governments, local decision-making, and Native American leadership; (2) encourage the development of stable, diversified local economies and economic activities which promote social

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Drug Labs

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will continue or if the trend will reverse as the operators of these laboratories find new ways to circumvent the law.

Guidance and Support

Congress established a Joint Federal Task Force consisting of participants from EPA, DEA, and the U.S. Coast Guard to develop *The Guidelines for Cleanup of Clandestine Drug Laboratories*. These guidelines identify six steps in a successful seizure.

Six Steps of a Successful Clandestine Drug Lab Seizure

1. Planning the Raid
2. Initial Entry
   Secure the site
3. Assessment
   Shut down process; assess health/safety risks; ventilate
4. Processing
   Take samples; evidence

DEA has established a multimillion dollar contract for the cleanup and disposal of chemicals and glassware at seized clandestine drug laboratory sites. The contract provides the needed support to DEA field agents and chemists whose primary jobs are law enforcement and chemistry—not hazardous waste management. The contract is used to provide the expertise for compliance with the hazardous waste generator standards under RCRA. The DEA, with EPA's concurrence, maintains the position that law enforcement responsibilities end after seizure, removal of the chemicals and glassware, and nated rugs, flooring, countertops, etc.), but will not do any remedial cleanup of residual contamination (e.g., septic systems when drain disposal has been used).

DEA has expressed a willingness to assist other law enforcement agencies by using the DEA cleanup contract if DEA is notified as early as possible, participates in the investigation and seizure, and adopts the case. For technical as well as administrative reasons, it is imperative that DEA have an active DEA file opened on such cases before applying the funds for cleanup and disposal.

— Contact: Joseph J. Boykevich, Chief, Hazardous Waste Disposal Unit, or Rolf P. Hill, Hazardous Waste Specialist, DEA Headquarters (202) 307-8833

Caution!

4. Processing

   Take samples; evidence

5. Exiting the Site

   Remove chemical for destruction; post warning signs

6. Follow-up

   Notify by letter: property owner, health department/ environmental agency

ment responsibilities end after seizure, removal of the chemicals and glassware, and notification of the property owner, state and local health department, or environmental agency that a clandestine drug laboratory was seized at that site. As part of the law enforcement activity, DEA will cleanup readily identifiable gross contamination (e.g., drums, bottles, cans, contami-

Caution!

Clandestine drug laboratories are extremely dangerous and present chronic as well as acute health hazards. They also may be booby-trapped. Only specially trained personnel should approach such sites. Assessment and processing of the site should also be handled by specially trained personnel.

ANA

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and economic well-being and reduce dependency on welfare; and (3) support local control, access to, and coordination of programs and services which safeguard the health and well-being of Native Americans.

The organization has become increasingly concerned about addressing the problem of environmental degradation currently being faced by tribal communities. The environmental problems confronting tribes today have an impact on every aspect of life in Indian country. Tribal governments experience difficulty in identifying, correcting, and preventing environmental problems because of limited financial resources, a small tax base, and physical and social isolation from other communities. Since 1985, ANA has awarded nearly one million dollars to approximately 20 grantees for the establishment of environmental codes. For example, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe of Idaho designed a project to help establish environmental protection codes to provide a legal basis for control of land development and to maintain and control water quality. In Colorado, the Southern Ute Tribe received a grant for a natural resource database and management project. This project developed environmental policies on energy and land development and assisted the Tribe to assume regulatory responsibilities for water use policies.

Under Commissioner Wapato's leadership, ANA is responding in several new ways to the need for reservation environmental protection. First, under the Coordinated Discretionary Funds Program, ANA is soliciting applications for the purpose of developing action-oriented approaches that address the broad range of environmental issues facing Native American communities. Second, the Commissioner is actively soliciting ideas from the tribal leadership on the direction of preserving and improving the environment.

Other future activities will involve ANA planning for possible appropriations under the Indian Environmental Regulatory Act, P.L. 101-408, passed on October 4, 1990. This legislation amends the Native American Programs Act of 1974 and authorizes grants to improve the capability of Indian tribal governments to regulate environmental quality. Should appropriations become available, grants will be awarded for training and education of tribal employees responsible for enforcing or monitoring compliance with environmental quality laws; the development of tribal laws on environmental quality; and the enforcement and monitoring of environmental quality laws.

— Contact: Sharon McCully, ANA, Executive Director, (202) 245-6546

EDITOR'S NOTE: The views expressed in *Native American Network* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect or represent EPA policy. The intent of *Native American Network* is to provide a diverse array of information for those interested in environmental issues in Indian country, and to provide a forum for information exchange among tribal governments, EPA, other federal agencies, and state and local governments.

Office of Solid Waste
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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OS-305
Washington, D.C. 20460

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